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LOOK INSIDE



A Kinmount visit

Crowds of children greeted Santa's arrival with glee in Kinmount on Sunday.

See page 13



Winner's circle

Curler Jake Walker hopes his success as a bantam sticks with him in juniors.

See page 17



Début success

Ryan Dawson's play took a complicated theme and gave it a dramatic flair.

See page 5



Sophie's blessings

Painters were in an Easterly mood in Dorset recently.

See page 17

In Quotes

"Parents should be proud of their children, and maybe even their house-coats. And children should understand that they're the miracle."

Steve Galea on the Christmas play, page 7

Cameron loses seat in recount

Says he won't
challenge
Lisa Schell's
one-vote victory

by JESSICA YOUNG
Times Staff

In a stunning upset, Ward 1 Councillor Clayton Cameron, who had already been sworn in after winning the November 13 election by 11 votes, has lost his seat on Minden Hills council.

As a result of a judge's orders, ballots that had been previously rejected were opened last Friday. The extra ballots gave Cameron's closest challenger, newcomer Lisa Schell, a one-vote edge.

When combined with the tally from the original count, the extra ballots gave Schell a total of 788 votes while Cameron garnered a total of 787 votes.

Two Ward 1 seats were up for grabs with in the municipal election. There were seven contenders. On Friday, frontrunner Bill Obee, who had led the Ward 1 polls on election day, secured his seat as councillor with a whopping 1,055 votes.

Cameron wasn't surprised by the outcome. During the first round of voting, he had won his seat by a mere 11 votes.

"I knew I'd be in a tight race from the beginning. I guess you could say I was disappointed that I wasn't successful but I'm not distraught over the results," he told the Times on Monday. "As a result of the total vote I lost by one, but I'm a great supporter of our democratic system. I fully accept the results of the election," says Cameron.

He has decided not to ask for a recount. "They already had one

see RECOUNT page 10



Martha Perkins/TIMES

Tickle me Monique

Monique Dulong was starting to get a bit worried that Santa had forgotten her at the Stanhope Firefighters children's Christmas party on Saturday so her older brother André cheered her up with a little tickle. Monique's patience was rewarded with a special gift from Santa. More photos pages 8 and 9.

Some people still haven't got the message – don't drink and drive

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment are continuing with the festive RIDE program, which commenced on November 29. Officers have stopped 2,262 vehicles thus far and four drivers have been charged with alcohol related driving offenses. Six drivers have been issued 12-hr suspensions and 25 provincial Offences Act charges have been laid.

On Sunday December 17, shortly before 6 p.m. officers received several reports about a vehicle being driven erratically on Highway 118. The vehicle was eventually located driving northbound on Highway 35 north

of Minden. The driver was signalled by the officers to pull over but ignored the request. The vehicle was eventually stopped some two kilometres later. The driver was subsequently arrested for impaired driving and taken to the detachment office.

A 37-year-old Algonquin Highlands man has been charged with impaired driving, failure to provide breath sample, dangerous driving, failing to comply with a recognizance, driving while under suspension and operating a motor vehicle without insurance.

He was held in custody pending a bail hearing Monday in

Lindsay. On Friday officers investigating a minor property damage collision in Haliburton Village charged one of the drivers with driving with over 80mgs.

It would appear that some members of the public still don't get the message that you can't drink and drive. Members of the public can report possible impaired drivers by dialing OPP on their cell phones or 911 in an emergency.

The incidents last weekend are a good example of how members of the public can rid the highways of people who continue to put other members of society at risk.

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Merry Christmas

Luba Cargill, Gloria Carnochan/Cindy Muenzel, Lindsay Elder, Tom Gardner, Ed Gibbons, Chris James, Ross Jarvis, Vince Jarvis, Dave Johnson, Doug Johnson, Patti & Hal Johnson, Debra Lambe, Denise LeBlanc, David Lee, Grace Loughheed, Al Mayo, Mike Murray, Marcia Prenger, Michelle & Chris Smolarz, Anthony vanLieshout, & Lawrence vanLieshout.

HHHS auxiliary purchased a new ultrasound machine thanks in large part to donations from the Minden Legion, Branch 636, and the Minden Lions Club. The Legion donated a total of \$6,000 from their poppy campaign fund and the Lions donated an additional \$500 from their general fundraising efforts. Pictured from left to right are Marilyn Burroughs, president of the Minden Health Care Auxiliary, Georgina Parkes, poppy chair for Branch 636, Susan Reed of Minden Health Care Auxiliary, Syd Adamson, past poppy chair, Wally Reed, president of the Minden Lion's Club, and Debbie Watson, manager of patient care services, who says the new equipment is a valuable asset for the community. "It's used in emergencies to help diagnose injuries in trauma. It's extremely important that physicians have it. It's become a standard in emergency health care. It helps us decide the urgencies in injuries," she says.

Casey Lessard/TIMES



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MIXED BLESSINGS • A CHRISTMAS STORY

by ROBYN KING THOMAS
Special to the Times

SNOWFLAKES CARRIED on wind-waves blew past my window this morning. Watching them I remembered an old saying, "No snowflake ever falls in the wrong place." Like the snowflake, I believe that no love, when shared with good intention, ever falls in the wrong place. This is most evident at Christmas when the gifting of ourselves through our heart connection to others and the common desire for peace and joy reveal the true spirit of the season.

Snuggled in a Prayer Shawl, I pressed myself against the cold glass and observed one tiny snowflake flying toward me. Caught in a gust, the flake split in two. I was fascinated as they flew in tandem as if still connected by the thread of memory. At last the wind relinquished its breath and the snowflakes fell to the ground. Having ridden the storm, they folded one upon the other, reunited in their belonging.

When the flakes converged I thought of that place in soul, where we reunite in the spirit of our belonging at Christmas. Connected by memory woven into the fibre of our lives are family, friends and community.

Far away from snowy Haliburton County, I knew my mother in New Zealand was feeling the loss of my father and brother as Christmas festivities gathered momentum around her, but not inclusive of her. As we spoke over the phone she shared her feelings of being very much alone. Ill-health had curtailed her ability to participate in the holiday spirit. Unless Mum found the strength to join my sisters and their families in celebration, this would be her season of sorrow. It seemed inevitable she would sit alone in front of the television this Christmas Day, with no-one to hug during a time symbolizing life, light, hope and love.

When my siblings and I were young, Mum embodied our perception of "Christmas." She baked the best shortbread and sticky Christmas pudding stuffed with fruit and the surprise of shining sixpences we ever tasted. Her musical prowess was legendary in her large family. Mum sang beautiful carols while we warbled, lagging two or three notes behind, muddling the words, as she disentangled her helpful little elves, from yellow, red and orange homemade crepe-paper garlands and long strands of bright beads intended for draping around the Christmas tree.

The tree was chosen with great care before Dad was allowed to chop it down. Mum's artistic eye scrutinized the symme-



Little Sophie, who is waiting for a liver transplant, finds joy and beauty in the simplest things. A lovely day reminds her of Christmas. And her wisdom reminds her aunt, Minden businesswoman and writer Robyn King Thomas, about the gifts we give from the heart — our love, our friendship and our time.

try and sturdiness of the boughs, the greening of pine needles, and how much oozing sap she would have to cut from our hair as we furtively poked about beneath the branches. She tore cotton-wool into pieces for us — fake snowflakes we flung with abandon upon ourselves and the tree.

Real snow was unimaginable in a land where Christmas was enjoyed outside as we played barefooted and carefree beneath warm, sunlit skies. Red tricycles, shiny roller skates, cricket bats and a doll-pram with our tortoiseshell kitty tucked inside were wondrous gifts. Mum's

resourcefulness knew no limits as she stretched tight family finances to ensure her kids never went without at Christmas. She was the heart of our home, filling it with joy, sharing and love.

Pulling my shawl about my shoulders I listened to Mum bridge the miles, and realized how lucky I was to be wrapped in that remarkable gift of caring and sharing, particularly at a time of year that can prove so lonesome. I tried to cheer Mum up with the story behind my Prayer Shawl, gifted to me by my friend Riscylla, at a time when she recognized

my need. Although they didn't know who the recipient would be, selfless souls in Riscylla's church knitted blessings and love into every stitch. Mixed blessings, I gratefully received. I thought if Mum would allow my sister's to embrace her with their love and sharing she too would be wrapped in that universal gift of caring.

"Perhaps I'll go visit them all for Christmas next year, dear," Mum said.

I assured her there are no next years, no tomorrows, just today's ever-present moments. I encouraged her to seize the opportunity to spend precious time with her daughters and beautiful granddaughters, especially Sophie.

Mum's littlest granddaughter Sophie is seven, and she awaits a liver transplant. Her courage is boundless. Sophie in her wisdom finds joy and beauty in the simplest things.

Last time I was home in New Zealand and saw my darling niece, even though she had just returned from hospital and 35 ragged stitches crisscrossed her tummy, she poked her head out her bedroom window and piped, "Hi Rob-bob isn't this a lovely day? Just like Christmas."

I understand and feel my mother's sorrow. Life has changed dramatically for her, but our love for her hasn't changed, she is still the heart of our family, reuniting us all in our belonging. There is no need for her to be alone at Christmas and this year I pray she won't be.

Even though my beloved Dad and brother have departed, their presence remains strong within our family. Memories of joy, love and childhood misadventures "down under" are interwoven in the Christmas tales I share with my three children. Each year my youngest daughter Ainslie and I honour traditions old and new. She loves Christmas and fills our home with cheer and light. We make like fir-trees, string ourselves in bright garlands, sing carols at the top of our lungs and bow to the spirit of Christmas.

If the snow is plentiful we create crazy snowmen wearing lopsided ice-hockey helmets. We lie in the snow like snow angels flapping our arms and legs, although mine don't flap so readily anymore. Sometimes when they think I'm not looking, my big kids stand outside; mouths widen open, hoping to catch frosty snowflakes on their tongues. Whilst little Sophie in New Zealand might never catch a snowflake on her tongue or make snow angels on Christmas Day, she too gifts herself through her heart connection, revealing the true meaning of the season.

Stanhope businessman breaks new ground in England

by JESSICA YOUNG
Times Staff

Imagine the distance between Bobcaygeon, Ontario and Newquay, England. It seems like worlds away, but the far-off UK destination is soon going to receive a taste of the quintessential north.

An agreement to build the first Canadian log home resort near Cornwall, England was signed December 8 in the presence of the High Commissioner of Canada, James Wright, at Canada House.

A partnership between 1867 Confederation Log Homes, which is owned by Rick Kinsman of Stanhope and Michael Murphy of Bobcaygeon, and

Cornish-based Sunnyside Developments Ltd. was created for this special project.

Ninety-one authentic, luxury, Canadian log homes will be built as year-round holiday accommodations. The site, which began construction December 6, will be home to the largest single development of imported Canadian log homes outside North America.

The UK company is undertaking a multi-million pound redevelopment of the Sunnyside Holiday Village.

"Log homes will provide families with a natural, beautiful setting in which to explore the charms of Cornwall," says Sunnyside representative David Gamble.

The resort will open in spring 2008.



Mike Murphy of 1867 Confederation Log Homes and Lee Gamble of Sunnyside Developments break ground for a new resort in Cornwall, England that will feature log homes from the local business.

A child's Christmas in Minden Hills

Students share their memories in writing project

by PAULINE JOHNSON
Times Staff

Student writers from Archie Stouffer Elementary School took a risk at the Dylan Thomas "visit to the cultural centre" put on by The Conjurors of County Town on December 9.

They stepped up to the podium (unless they were too short and then they stood in front) to describe their favourite family experiences at Christmas. Performing in public or doing a reading of your work in front of an audience can be a nerve wracking experience but, as we have all learned, it gets easier the more you do it.

These students will get to share \$100 prize money donated by Friends of the Library. Their work will also appear in the Minden Times Christmas Supplement in this week's edition.

Gina Stanley, the school librarian, and Dana Dodds, the academic resource teacher partnered with the writer in residence at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre to encourage students to write snippets of memory archives this year instead of their usual letters to Santa.

Stanley said, "Classes have been teaming up and working cooperatively to write stories. Older students assisted younger students by sharing Christmas stories, assisting to form ideas and helping to edit writing."

Pat Brezina's help in organizing the stu-

dents and arranging with parents to get them to the special event, made all the difference. As a former teacher at the school, many of the students knew her and she was a great coach, standing with them on the sidelines before they presented, offering quiet encouragement.

Kaily Schell, a Grade 8 student, began the program by firmly declaring, "I fully believe in Santa!" She wrote about the Christmas when she realized that Santa was definitely real. Revealing her family's tradition of giving the children one new Christmas ornament a year, she shared the mysterious presence and wonder of a Cinderella shoe appearing under her pillow one night. The wonder of the season is what makes it magical.

Erin Little in Grade 4 and her cousin, Camraen Little in Grade 1, bravely stepped forward to recite their story about making gingerbread houses and then going to Grandma's house for a wonderful Christmas dinner and family gathering. A delightful pair, they alternated lines and drew us into the scene they described.

Tara O'Sullivan narrated how her family always makes up a Christmas play or acts out the Nativity scene. They romp around outside throwing hay around for the animals. Christmas is always full of laughs for their family, with Mom often volunteering to play the donkey in the scene, stating that it's the most humorous role.



Monetary prizes were given to the winners of the Minden Cultural Centre's Christmas Memories writing project. Back row from left: Aiden Garbutt, Camraen Little, Dana Dodds, Tara O'Sullivan, and Teghan Dodds. Front: Maya O'Sullivan, ASES Principal Joan Harpell, Brittany Hewitt, Peter Ferri, and Erin Little. The prize money was donated by the Friends of the Library and the students read their works on Friday night at the cultural centre. Absent from photo are Mikaela Charlesbois and Kaily Schell.

Brittany Hewitt, in Grade 3, told about how her family traditionally buys gifts for the children at Sick Kids Hospital. The gift of giving is the most powerful lesson of the season, even more so when delivered by someone so young.

Having moved around a lot over the years, Mikaela Charlesbois' family often spends Christmas with friends, rather than family who are far away. This Grade 8 student explained how she is taking responsibility for starting their family's own traditions and laughed as she mused about which of the famous families on television they should emulate.

The scene that Maya O'Sullivan, a Grade 6 student, described of tromping through the wood with family members singing loudly, and then vying to be the first to swing the ax when a suitable Christmas tree was found was cheerfully delivered. Her final picture of her mom standing on her dad's shoulders to put the star on the tree made everyone smile.

Teghan Dodds, a Grade 8 student, has

had many successes as a writer. Revealing that her grandmother was also an author who shared her stories with the family in a book called *The Ice Cream Moon*, explained where Teghan got her inspiration from. The book narrated stories of her grandmother's life in Northern Ontario. Teghan explained that she too would like to carry on the tradition of writing a book for her family so they, in turn, could preserve the family's past and traditions. This young lady is quite an inspiration herself.

Last, but certainly not least, was a reading by Aiden Garbutt in Grade 1. Stepping bravely forward, he studiously concentrated on each word and sentence, doing an amazing job of reading. His mom, crouched by his side for support, couldn't have been prouder as her son talked about the joys of getting together with family on Christmas Day. Aiden was just adorable and a fitting reminder that Christmas is for the children in us all, a time to worship, wonder and love.

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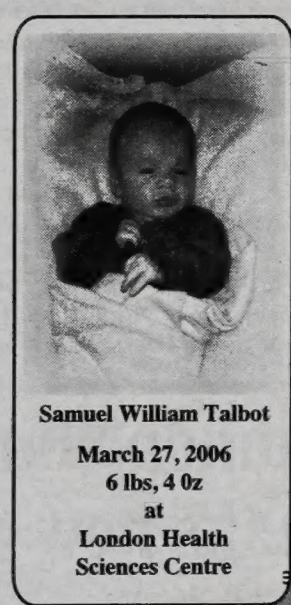
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Play heralds a new talent

by JESSICA YOUNG
Times Staff

Ryan Dawson, the writer and director of the sold-out play *The Herald*, kept it simple. When the play debuted at the Northern Lights Pavilion on Saturday night, his stage set up remained unchanged throughout the play and he kept the cast at a tight-knight group of five.

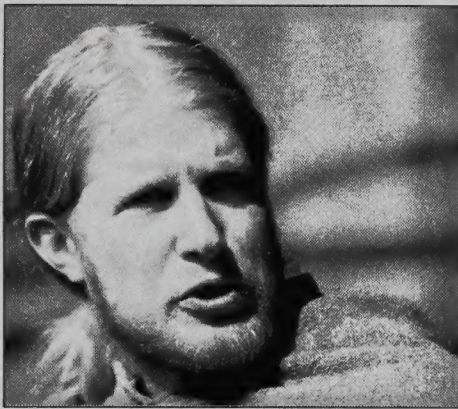
On the surface, the main theme of his script also seems uncomplicated. Like many others before him, he tackled the adventure of self-discovery. However, Dawson managed to keep his characters and plotline crisp, entertaining around 250 audience members on both Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

Although the play seems relatively straightforward, Dawson cleverly maneuvers between many plotlines: two love stories, the rise and fall of a king, and each individual's quest for happiness. Amongst the intertwined tales, Dawson found a way to personalize each character while moving the plot at the right pace.

Dawson took the role of main character Randall, a guard whose duty is to guard a door, not knowing what is on the other side. Randall is introduced as a man who only knows to tow the line of the King, but soon he yearns to discover what is behind the mysterious door he has guarded with his life for all these years.

As a servant to the King, Randall crosses the path of Lady Natalie, the royal princess, played by Kathryn Boyd. She bears her title with bitterness and the two participate in a fiery romance filled with spite. The line between anger and passion are never clear, and it's apparent the couple's internal struggles trump any type of

Jessica Young/TIMES



Erin Lynch delivers a magnificent performance as the princess's servant in *The Herald*. Bottom left: Michael Johnson debates whether he should leave his position as an unassuming guard. Bottom right: Ryan Dawson takes the lead role of Randall, who is involved in an intense romance with Natalie, Kathryn Boyd.

future the two can muster together.

The opposite can be said of Randall's friend and fellow guard, Aaron, played by Michael Johnson, and his love-interest Tasha, Lady Natalie's servant played by Erin Lynch.

Tasha longs to reunite with the daughter she gave up for adoption, and Aaron craves to fulfill his poetic void by unleashing his artistic passions to the world. Both turn to one another and the art of writing to heal and learn from their past and move forward.

A cloaked man played by Greg Luck sits by the fire, the herald of each of the characters. He acts as each person's inner battle between passion and action, representing the catalyst for change during

pivotal moments in each character's lives.

Each character uses the herald in a different way, whether to further themselves or succumb to the darkness of damaging temptations. Dawson leaves the audience wondering what happens when Randall succumbs to the herald: did he end up with Natalie? Was he able to release himself from the chains of his labour?

The play mixes just the right amount of romance and personal character development. Dawson's creative writing makes

the theme of self-discovery alive again. At the tender age of 25, his ability to provide proper comedic breaks and moments of intense emotion from the cast is impressive.

The evening ended with a standing ovation for Dawson and his cast mates.

Dawson claims this play won't be his last. If *The Herald* is any indication, we can anticipate the next one to be a smashing success.

The Minden Health Care Auxiliary would like to Thank

the many businesses, groups and individuals who have supported us through their generous donations to our fundraising efforts over this past year. It has been greatly appreciated.

We wish you all a
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The Times

MINDEN ONTARIO



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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Whew! The election is finally over

IF ELECTIONS HAD PHOTO FINISHES, then you would have needed a very high-speed camera to capture the final results of the Ward 1 race in Minden Hills. After all the recounts and court challenges, not to mention a swearing-in ceremony, councillor Clayton Cameron lost his seat to Lisa Schell by only one vote. Imagine if the vote had been tied! Lord help us.

Even though he's now lost by only one single vote, Clayton Cameron says he will not contest the results and ask for a recount. We should all be grateful for this magnanimous gesture. Few people have the fortitude to watch this process drag itself out any longer. His concession means that the municipality can move on with the many challenges its councillors and staff are faced with.

It's too early to tell whether the new council will gel. If there are too many egos and not enough rational voices, there will be little progress. It's not that you want a council where everyone agrees with one another. Instead, you want a council where people are willing to put aside their own agendas and work with others for the common good. And if you lose on one vote, you put it behind you. You don't get revenge on those who voted against you by voting against one of their motions. You accept defeats while savouring victories.

Minden Hills will need a few victories. While there have been many positive things coming out of the municipality, we are in the midst of a time of tremendous change. Decisions made in the next four years will determine whether the municipality manages this change or lets the change manage it. While news that Canadian Tire is buying property is welcome to many people, it's one more step in the corporatization of our world. The Highway 35 bypass will look like any other road cutting through a town. We won't seem like the quaint little village any more, and quaintness has already been part of our appeal.

Pressures for more growth will continue and councillors must be the Solomons of our day, trying to decide how best to balance conflicting aspirations. If they don't work together for the betterment of all, the changes will happen without any local control.

Meanwhile, the problems with the election are not the fault of mail-in elections. In a county such as Haliburton, where two-thirds of our property owners don't live within our boundaries, being able to send a ballot from home, wherever that may be, made the system more democratic. Mail-in voting gave everyone an equal opportunity to vote.

The problem was in the ballot design used by the company called Data-Fix. It was too confusing and too prone to error. The ballot kit was not voter-friendly. Data-Fix, which has refused to comment to the press, has not taken any responsibility for the problem but given how the company's name has been dragged through the mud over the past few months, rest assured that they'll change their ballot system by the next election. They'd better have some reassurances for municipal clerks and councils, whose lives have been turned upside down with all the controversies over the count.

Martha Perkins

Discover the magic of Christmas in our second section

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IMAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS

Santa's on his way

Photo by Greg Hoekstra/Times

TO THE EDITOR

Times readers write

African grandmothers will share in the Christmas spirit

Dear Editor,

This past Sunday, at Stouffer Mill B&B, the Minden Hills Grandmothers to Grandmothers Group held their first fundraising event in aid of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

We want to extend our thanks to everyone who attended and to let them know that, because of their generosity, we will be able to send over \$2,100 to the foundation. These funds will assist needy grandmothers in Africa, who are raising their grandchildren, orphaned by AIDS.

Thank you also to Don and Jessie Pflug for giving us their beautiful home for this event, and to Melissa Stevens and her talented musicians for providing the entertainment. It was indeed, a Joyous Christmas Afternoon.

Mickey Bonham
Minden Hills

Grandmothers to Grandmothers

Editor's note: For coverage of this event please see pages 14 and 15 in this week's Times.

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

What child is this?

THIS MORNING, I'm very excited. Today, I get to see my seven-year-old daughter Carmen work her magic in her school's Christmas play. For any parent, this is definitely one of the highlights of the year.

Now, I realize that not everyone celebrates Christmas but I believe that even those who don't would have fun and maybe learn a thing or two about the way we're all supposed to get along at a Christmas play. In fact, if the United Nations had any imagination at all, they'd make all the world leaders and warring factions sit down and watch a few. Then they might do the same with whatever plays are put on by the children of other faiths. If this didn't promote world peace, I can't think of what would.

The best part of one of these events is that they do not, and possibly have never, go as planned. And this is what makes them great.

Way back, when I was in school, I played one of the four Three Wise Men in our pageant. We had a big class and

our teacher was not particularly good at math. Placing me in this august group, however, was one of the worst cases of miscasting since Patrick Swayze played a tough guy in Road House. Honestly, I got the role because I was one of the few kids whose father had a housecoat that he wasn't embarrassed to show in public. For that is what the wise people of that era wore.

I remember walking on stage, fiddling with the terry cloth belt and finally undoing it so that I wasn't so hot under all those bright lights. I think I had to hand over my Frankincense to one of my fellow wise men to accomplish this, and if memory serves me correctly, I didn't exactly have an easy time getting it back. So, in the end, we both handed it over.

Somewhere during the play, after we followed the paper star and said hello to

Joseph, Mary, and baby J, we got the giggles. I think it was because, for the previous two weeks, the older kids had been singing "We three kings of Eglinton Square, tried to sell some cheap underwear..." and it finally caught up to us. Hey, you can only hold out to peer pressure for so long.

The rest of the play went equally well - which is exactly how these things are supposed to go.

Just the act of containing all that happiness and nervous energy on a gymnasium stage is an awesome achievement. And when the kids get to step forward to wave discreetly at their loved ones, well, I think we can all agree that it's magic.

It seems to me that there's no better metaphor for Christmas in fact. Some wondrous child - it could be yours, it could be mine - steps forward, through all the complexities of the adult world,

and brings us comfort and joy.

For a short while we're all paying attention to the important things. For a short while we're all smiling and feeling at peace. These things transcend religion and they pre-date the rampant commercialism of the modern season. They represent the greatness buried underneath it all.

My daughter has been reciting her lines for two weeks solid. She's truly thrilled that she gets to walk up to a microphone that's set, for once, at her height, and say her piece to all the mommies and daddies out there. She thinks the message is important.

She'll probably rush it; maybe she'll drop a line; the odds are good that we won't hear it all. That's not the point.

The point is this is the way life should be - full of smiles, laughter, and pleasant anticipation; and everyone should have a line or two to say. Parents should be proud of their children, and maybe even their housecoats. And children should understand that they're the miracle.

Merry Christmas.



BEYOND35

Steve Galea

Confessions of mayhem maestro

FASTER," I SHOUT. "Faster, I say. Louder. Whoop it up! I can't hear you."

And with that the chain of cousins and brothers snaking from hallway to living-room to kitchen in my grandparents' farm cottage gathers speed and volume.

It is in the week after Christmas sometime in the late 1950s. This now is my confession, fifty years later, of how I ruined my grandmother's holiday dinner.

There must have been at least 20 of us there from my mother's side, grandparents, three pairs of parents, perhaps a dozen siblings and cousins, all of them younger than me, young enough to be led astray.

In this time and place, in rural, Protestant Western Ontario, the after-dinner drinks are tea and coffee and what is there for a small boy to do after dessert but leave the table?

The setting is festive. Though it is after Christmas, the tree in the corner is fresh-cut, fresh from the swamp where my grandfather found it after he came home from Christmas at my house.

In an act of daring, my grandmother, by then close to 70, might have cooked a ham or goose instead of turkey, but the rest would be traditional rural Ontario fare - potatoes, turnips, peas, Christmas

pudding with hard sauce.

There might have been tomato juice or rolls or salad and potatoes scalloped instead of mashed. Perhaps there were cranberries. Details elude me now; the company of my cousins was the main thing on my menu.

Space grows with time, fertilized by memory. The room we eat in might be 500 square feet. The table is at one end, away from the traffic to come.

Dessert finished, I assemble my co-conspirators at the entrance to the hallway as my grandmother pours coffee for the grown-ups. With one exception, we are all boys, all of us ready for any mayhem on offer.

"What should we do?" asks a cousin, perhaps thinking of crokinole or snakes and ladders.

"We could run," I say. "You could run into that hallway, turn left past the crank-up wall phone and cot, past the bedroom doors and then left again at the other end, just before the grandfather's clock that neither ticks nor tocks."

"Then you could cut through the living-

room's wicker furniture to the kitchen door and between the cupboards on one side and the woodbox and kitchen range on the other and back to the hall door.

"You ought to run just as fast as you can, almost out of control. And then you could do it again. Over and over. And then some more. Spin out on the corners; bounce off the walls."

"And you ought to yell."

Yelling is always good. There is nothing like a good holler to settle the stomach after a heavy meal."

And so the running begins, with me on the sidelines in an advisory capacity.

"Louder," I cry.

"Faster. Randy, I can hardly hear you! Move it along, Johnny."

Then I am back

at the table, the perfect oldest grandson, just a face in the crowd, observing the trouble I have caused as though it has nothing to do with me. Big boys and small boys, a girl cousin, running, a toddler staggering confused through the turmoil.

Imagine a seventh game in the World



BACK OF BEYOND

Neil Campbell

Series. Bottom of the ninth inning. Bases loaded, home team trailing by a run. Two out, full count, the crowd on its feet in an uproar. The noise is just like that, only louder, louder still in memory. There are no words to the yelling, just high-pitched shrieks and bellows.

My grandfather is telling a story; he has the old man's knack of being deaf except when it is inconvenient. Of course, nobody can hear him.

The noise achieves a crescendo. My grandmother, after days of anticipating this bringing together of her brood, looks strained and weary.

Somebody crashes into a door frame and she smiles that tight, purse-lipped smile that could drill holes through cast iron. "My goodness," she says in a sudden excess of emotion.

"They sure are loud," I say disapprovingly. "I'll have to speak to them."

And so I do just that. "Louder. Faster. Come on, Sandy, show a little life."

The chain of grandchildren lurches and bumps, yelps and hoots, stomps and thuds, throws elbows and hip checks.

There will be other family holiday dinners in other houses, even another organized uproar, but there will be no more at my grandmother's table. This is too much for her.

Please stop throwing your garbage on our roads!

To the Editor:

Recently we found five bags of garbage tossed into the woods on North Shore Road. They contained a variety of tin cans that had been prepared for the recycling bin.

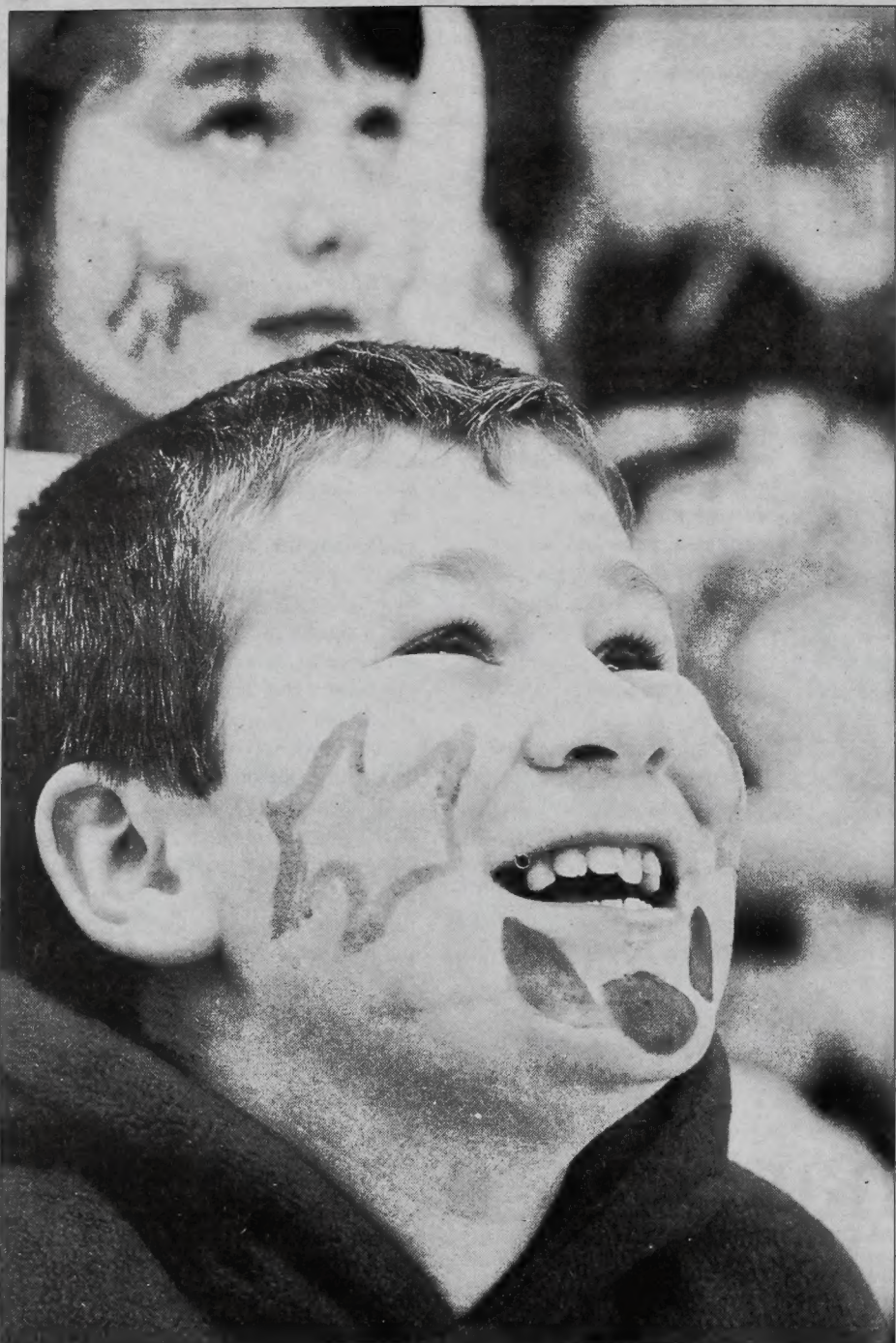
Unfortunately someone threw them out of a window instead of taking them to the dump.

We walk on North Shore Road frequently and in the last month we have removed enough bottles, cans and other garbage to fill nine bags. We have a good recycling program and adequate landfill sites. There is no excuse for littering our roadsides!

Anna and Martin Schuster
RR1 Haliburton



These bags of garbage were found on North Shore Road.



Making Christmas sparkle in a child's eyes

The Stanhope Fire Department hosted its annual children's Christmas party on Saturday to the delight of dozens of children and their parents. On this page, Tyler Martin, at left, Victoria Harrison, above, and Mackenzie Tidey, at right, get caught up in the magic of performer David Archibald's search for the Christmas bear.

On the next page, Xavier Dulong tries to hang a candy cane off his nose while he and his sister Monique wait for Santa. Seven-month-old Tanisha Coates doesn't quite know what to make of the man in red when she sits down for one of her first visits with Santa. David Archibald kept his young audience smiling. Every child got a present from Santa.





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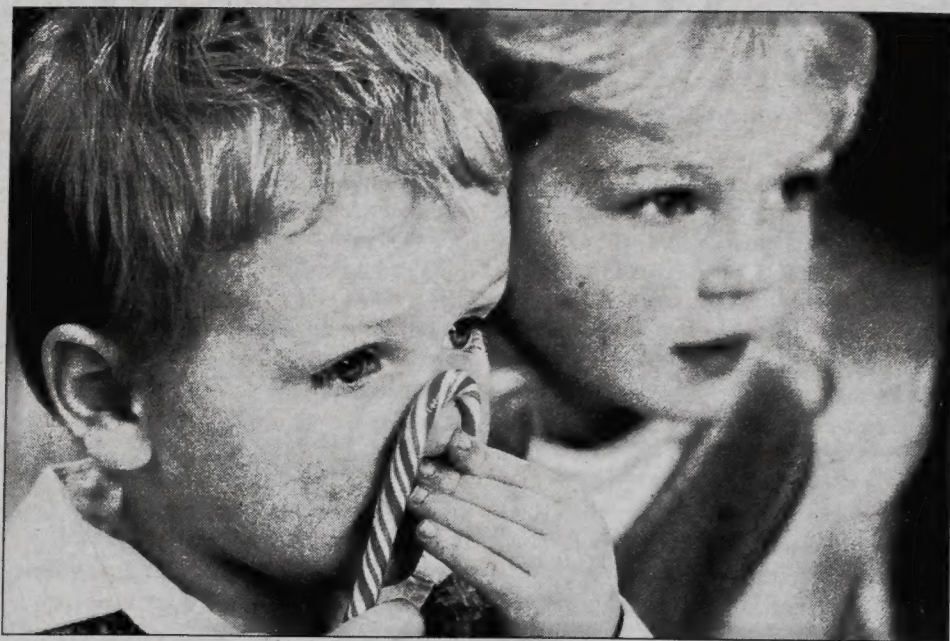
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Photos by
Martha Perkins



Reach for The Future

For the ninth year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. As of December 13, 2006 "The Reach for The Future" campaign has raised **\$56,897.00**. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the \$175,000.00 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

CHRISTMAS 2006 DONATIONS

Peter & Irene Alexander	Gordon & Judith Glandfield	Cecilia & Wilhelm Tieber
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Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank our Honourary Chairmen for our 2006 "The Reach for The Future" campaign, **Dr. Bob Heyes** and **Dr. David Fiddler**.

If you would like to help us "Reach for The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to **Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden ON K0M 2K0**, you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton facilities, or you can donate on-line at www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation.htm.



A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

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FAMILY, FRIENDS FORTUNE

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We're truly grateful for all your loyal support.*

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Friday, December 22nd**

**Tuesday, Dec. 26th... customers will be picked up
Wednesday, December 27th**

**Monday, January 1st... customers will be picked up
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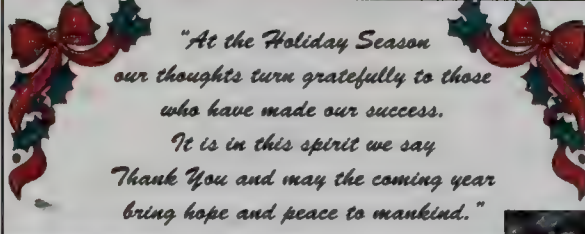
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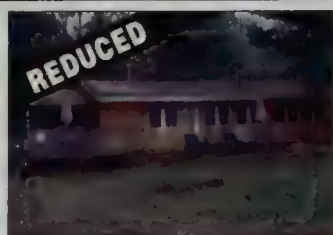
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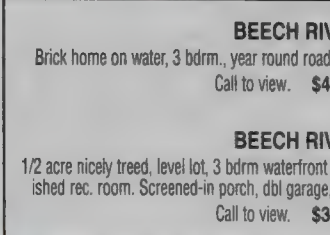
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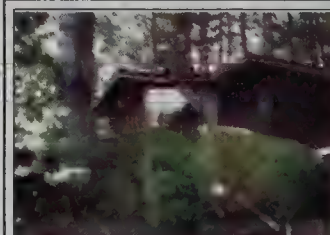


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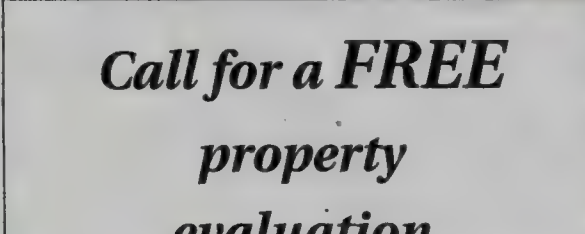
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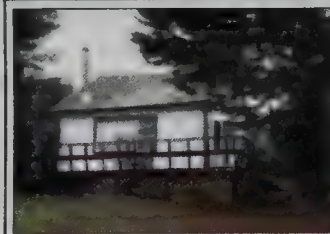
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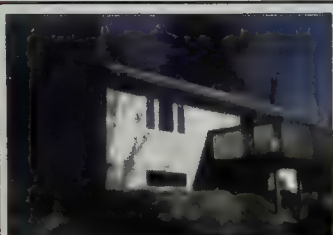


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Casey Lessard/TIMES

A timely donation

The Haliburton Highlands Time Travelers have donated their earnings from 50-50 ticket sales to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. The group raised \$600 toward the foundation's capital debt, bringing total donations from them to \$4,927 over the last four years.

From left: Time Travelers president Bob Patton, HHHSF executive director Dale Walker, old car enthusiasts Opal Crowe, John Francis, and HHHSF chairman Peter Oyler.



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Santa comes to Kinmount

Top left: Sandra Crego and her grandchildren Rory Campbell, 1, and Jaxson Campbell, 5, wave to jolly old Saint Nick during Sunday's Kinmount Santa Claus Parade.

Above: Accompanied by his helpers, Kelsey Crego and Melissa Parsons, Santa waves to his adoring fans in Kinmount from the back of a horse-drawn sleigh.

Below: Representing Kinmount Legion Branch 441, volunteers Andrew Crego (left) and Clinton Buterbaugh (right) took to Main Street with bags of candy for the good boys and girls.

Bottom left: Members of the Kinmount Guide, Brownies, and Sparks combined forces to spread cheer and goodwill to on-looking community members.

Left: Cousins Christina and Nathalie Lemieux throw handfuls of candy canes to anxious onlookers from the Kinmount Independent Grocer float.

Photos by Greg Hoekstra



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If you want to help African families coping with the AIDS pandemic, visit the Stephen Lewis Foundation (.org) or call 1-416-533-9292

Mickey Bonham was motivated to do something to help the families devastated by AIDS in Africa after following the news of the AIDS conference in Toronto. With friends she formed the Minden chapter of Grandmothers to Grandmothers.

Jessica Young/TIMES



Grandmothers use music and joy to reach out to AIDS victims

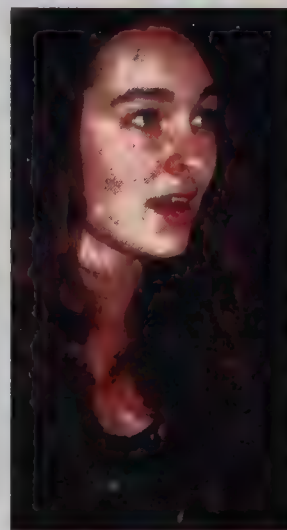
by JESSICA YOUNG
Times Staff

Baked goodies, holiday carols, and the company of good friends are usual occurrences during the holidays. The tradition of scrumptious food and fun is what makes Christmas so special.

The Minden Grandmothers Group made the festive season even livelier by hosting their first fundraising event called A Joyous Christmas Afternoon at Stouffer Mill Bed & Breakfast last Sunday afternoon.

The group had no monetary goal but the end of the

see REVELLERS page 15



Providing the musical entertainment were the Tri-Vocals, top, and Jordyn Archer.

Denise Leblanc



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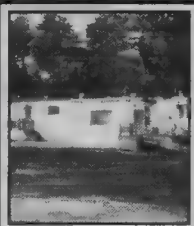
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OH THE LOT!

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Season's Greetings

The Staff of Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc. wishes to extend Season's Greetings to all. There's never been a better time to remember friends and express our appreciation for your business than during this special season of thankfulness. Our very best wishes for peace, health and happiness in the year 2007.



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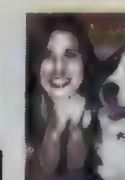
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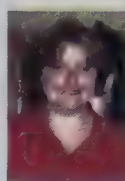
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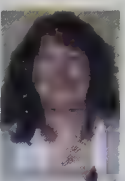
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Revellers contribute \$2,100 to Stephen Lewis Foundation

from page 14

afternoon revealed that \$2,100 had been donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Donations to Lewis's Grandmothers campaign ranged from \$10 to \$1,000. Across Canada, there are roughly 100 grandmother groups.

"There are many grandmothers in Africa who are raising their grandchildren because they've lost their kids to AIDS. We want to help those less fortunate," says Jessie Pflug, a member of Minden's Grandmother's Group, and owner of the beautiful bed and breakfast overlooking Halls Lake.

The event was a musical open house that allowed guests to admire the festive décor and breath-taking view of Haliburton with Stouffer Mill's monumental windows. More than 2,000 lights twinkled on the 16' Christmas tree, which acted as the centerpiece in the room where people could enjoy the sounds of the afternoon.

"Stouffer Mill is a beautiful place. We're thankful to Jessie and Don for offering to host, and all who donated", said Mickey Bonham, founding member of Minden's Grandmothers Group.

Singers Elly Malcomson, Chris Archer, and Jessie Pflug provided sweet harmonies for the crowd. On the piano was musical director Melissa Stephens, who also

sang a few numbers with her three students. The musical feast also included the musical stylings of Dave Hawley on clarinet and Ken Loney, who dazzled on the trombone. Jordyn Archer, Chris Archer's granddaughter, also lent her voice for the afternoon.

Since it was an ideal way to get into the holiday spirit, Joan Lauchlan accepted her invitation from two friends to attend.

"I'd love to come next year if they have this event again," says Lauchlan.

Jim Malcomson was able to relish in his wife's musical performance while supporting African women.

"It's a great afternoon. There's always something here at Don and Jessie's for Christmas. It's a great cause," he said.

Guests such as Lauchlan and Malcomson had access to every room at the B&B, allowing them to explore the guest rooms and 360-degree view from the rooftop solar-

ium. And as any holiday season warrants, sweets filled the tables of the first and second floor for attendees to munch on.

"All the grandmothers made the food. Grandmothers are good cooks," laughed Pflug.

Bonham founded the local group after being inspired by the International AIDS Conference that was held this past August in Toronto. She called on the community and was soon joined by Cathy McLean, Sandy Valentine, Jessie Pflug, Donna Colby and Sue Reid. The group already has plans for more events.

A raffle is scheduled to take place during the spring and Canada Day weekend, the grandmother's will be out selling rainy day packages. Items such as video and board games will be included in rainy day packages for cottagers to purchase in support of "Grandmothers to Grandmothers".

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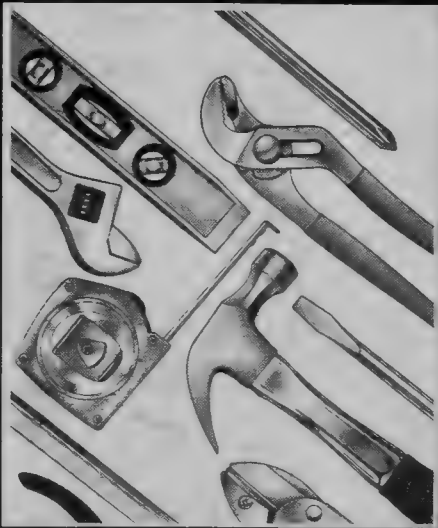
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This program is funded by The Government Of Ontario



Directory connects landowners with resource managers

The Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council is currently gathering information for the third edition of the Landowner Services Directory, and local businesses are encouraged to make the most of this opportunity.

The purpose of the directory is to provide private landowners with a reference list of resource management professionals and agencies who provide services and information related to natural resources in and around the community.

There is no fee for companies and businesses to participate, and the document is also distributed to landowners free of charge. If you own or operate a business related to

resource management you are encouraged to post a listing in this free directory.

Previous editions have included listings in the following categories:

Forestry - forestry consultants, foresters, tree marking, loggers and contractors, horse loggers, logging equipment suppliers, veneer mills and buyers, sawmills, custom milling, pulp mills, kilns, planers, specialty wood products, firewood, MFTIP approvers, tree removal, tree nurseries, and tree planting.

Education and training - training facilities, cutter/skidder certification, and mechanical harvesting certification.

Fish and wildlife - hatcheries and fish farms, rehabilitation centres, veterinary specialists, pest diagnostic and control services.

Environmental expertise - environmental consultants, shoreline naturalization specialists, landscape architects, wetland evaluators, and planners.

Map products - GPS and GIS mapping consultants, and surveyors.

Alternative energy - suppliers, providers, installers, and consultants.

Other - log trucking companies, excavation, road building, septic installation, and environmental spills cleanup.

To be listed in the third edition of the Landowner Services Directory the following information is required by Monday January 15, 2007: Category, subcategory, contact name, business name, mailing address, telephone, facsimile, e-mail, and website address (if applicable). If available, please also include a copy of any business cards and a brochure.

Forward your contact information and inquiries to:
Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council
Box 820, 12698 Highway 35
Minden, ON
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Phone: 705-286-5206
Fax: 705-286-4355
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U-Links seeks new members for its management committee

The U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research is seeking new members for its management committee.

Meetings are held 10 times a year to make policy decisions, to review research project proposals, and to provide strategic guidance and support to the organization.

Individuals interested in volunteering with this dynamic

and interesting committee are invited to send a letter of introduction addressed to the management committee. Your letter will tell them about yourself and how your skills and expertise will assist the work that U-Links does in the community. For more information, please contact Kate Hall at 286-2411 or ulinks@on.aibn.com.



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E-MAIL: your order to the Festival Box office, <tickets@highlandsummerfestival.on.ca> including your VISA/MC/AMEX number, expiry date, telephone number and mailing address.

IN PERSON: Purchase your season pass at Highlands Summer Festival retailers: Kitchens Etc., in Haliburton and The Storeroom in Minden

PHONE: Call Highlands Summer Festival Box Office at (705) 457-9933. Have your VISA/MC/AMEX card available for faster processing of your order.

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Jake Walker sweeps into junior men's competition

by JESSICA YOUNG
Times Staff

Jake Walker's Christmas break won't really be a break at all. The 17-year-old curler's schedule parallels that of any dedicated athlete.

On Boxing Day, he will curl for the Heart and Stroke Foundation in a fundraiser called Heart to Heart in Toronto. From the 29th to the 30th he'll compete in the Energizer Men's Toronto Curling Association tournament, and all this will be followed by the Ontario Curling Association's junior men's provincial championships held January 3-7 in Brockville.

He barely has time to breathe between training and being a regular teen but Jake seems to be handling his own. He's even made time for a girlfriend. Is it any surprise she plays rugby, is a part of a national rowing team, and is the quarterback for her school's football team?

Girlfriends aside, Jake has a lot to celebrate this Christmas. Last weekend, Jake's high school men's team was the A-side winner of the provincial tournament, Gore Mutual Schoolboy Zone 5, for the third year in a row. The triple crown winners now advance to regionals in February in Sutton.

Two weeks ago, Jake's Oakville junior men's team celebrated their A-side victory at the junior regional competition in Etobicoke. In order to compete in Ontario, a team must win in their respective zone. Ontario has 16 zones and the top two teams from each zone qualify to fight for the title of regional champ.

He and Oakville Curling Club teammates Jamie Parker, skip, Kellen Miseferi, second, and Trevor Harrison, lead, blew the competition away and can now safely call themselves the number one bantam boys regional team.

Now that Jake has added the title of regional winner, he now looks towards the next competition. He's sat comfortably for the past while in the bantam boys category. But since Jake has reached the age of 17, he must move to the big leagues and into the junior men's category, for those ages 17 to 19. He and all his teammates are making the transition from boys to men this year.

"Hopefully I'll get to go to nationals for junior men's,"



Under the junior men's category, Minden's Jake Walker and his team will compete in the provincial championships early January for a chance to qualify for nationals. Top Row L-R: Trevor Harrison, lead, and Gord Parker, Oakville Curling Club coach. Bottom row: Jake Walker, vice, Jamie Parker, skip, and Kellen Miseferi, second

says Jake.

Currently his junior men's team is ranked sixth in Ontario. As provincials approach, Jake and his team must be sharp and tactful to stay atop their new category.

"The provincials are really open; the skill level is balanced between every team. Everyone has a fair chance of winning. It's really about who can put things together that week."

He's got his eye on the prize, and his focus can be attributed to his innate love for curling, which began at the young age of nine. It's no surprise that when asked what he'd do if he couldn't curl, Jake's answer was, "Maybe hockey, track and field, badminton, rugby, soccer, basketball, or baseball." It's clear he's always known what he was born to do.

His heart has long been given to curling, and the advancement to the junior men's level will be a test of his

skill and dedication.

Making the transition from bantam to junior men's will no doubt be challenging but it seems that the youngster has enough experience in the game to cause some sweaty palms from his competition.

He's participated in the Ontario Junior Curling Tour and has spruced his skills throughout the summer in the high performance curler category at curling camp. Every Thursday he makes the trek to Oakville to train with coach Gordon Parker.

But when all is said and done, Jake just wants to curl. High school coach Tom Dibblee has known Jake since his start in secondary school and has always known Jake to be a leader in the sport.

"He's a passionate young man who loves curling. For the past two years he's been the skip for our team, so he's

see SUCCESS page 18

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Success fuels Walker's commitment to curling

from page 17

been the leader in charge. He gets the team to follow his direction," says Dibblee.

Jake says, "I've played long enough and I've become very talented at it. I get to meet people from all over Ontario, and now many of them are my good friends."

Like his idol, Brad Gushue, a gold medal Olympic winner, Jake looks at his teammates as close friends, not just athletic counterparts.

"Most of my friends are who I curl with or who I curl against. If I'm away from home, I'm often with my friends. We all bond together. It took time for us to work well together. It's also helped that we have a dedicated coach."

With respectable teammates by his side, Jake is looking nowhere but up. His plans are to stay in high school for an additional year in Grade 12 and take extra courses.

"I don't want to go to university next year because I want to curl competitively. If I went to university, my workload would take over any time I'd need to curl."

Jake's mom, Nancy, knows she's not raising your ordinary teenager and is happy with her son's decision to pursue a career in her family's sport.

"I am really happy with his decision. My dad curled all his life, my husband curls sometimes and I curl," she says.

If his family's curling is any indication, Jake's in for a long career.

Novices win their way to Silver Stick final game

by DENNIS MCKEE
Times Staff

The Highland Storm Novice team travelled to Wasaga Beach December 8, 9, and 10 and competed in a Silver Stick Hockey Tournament. What an exciting weekend it was.

Highland Storm vs. Elora in game one saw two evenly matched teams battle it out. In the end Highland Storm won by a score of 2-1. Joel Fedeski scored the opening goal three minutes into the game assisted by Noah Dollo. Elora tied the game three minutes later. Thanks to some outstanding goaltending by Austin McKay, and some great hustle by the rest of the Highland Storm team the score stayed that way until Jacob Bishop scored the winning goal with less than two minutes remaining.

The second game featured another exciting match-up against Elmvalle. This game was much closer than the 4-0 win by the Highland Storm indicated. No goals were scored until halfway through the second period when Joel Fedeski again opened the scoring for the Storm assisted by Greg Crofts. An exceptional defensive game played by Ryan Hill, Andrew Hall, Jaydon Wood, and Joel Fedeski allowed the Storm to keep Elmvalle off the score sheet. Austin McKay stood on his head for the second game in a row sealing the victory and the well deserved

shut out. Other goals were scored by Joel Fedeski, Noah Dollo, and Jacob Bishop. Assists went to Jacob Bishop, and Greg Crofts, who notched his second point in the game.

In the third game the Storm ran into a very strong Schomberg club, and lost by a score of 6-1. The lone goal of the game for the storm was scored by Sydney Cameron unassisted.

Based on the point system used throughout the tournament the Storm accumulated enough points to earn a berth in the A final and once again had to face the club from Schomberg. This game was much closer than the final score appeared. Schomberg opened up the first period with two quick goals. In the second period Morgan Hamilton buried the puck assisted by Chad Burden to make it 2-1, but with just one second remaining in the second. Schomberg added another, which seemed to seal the fate for the Storm. Schomberg scored four unanswered goals in the third and went on to win the game 7-2. The Storm ended the game on a positive note with Brenden McKee scoring the final goal of the game assisted by Sydney Cameron.

Special congratulations to the Highland Storm's Joel Fedeski for winning MVP honours, and congratulations to all the Highland Storm team for a very strong showing over the entire weekend. Way to go Storm!!

Highlands players contribute to North Central Predators' success

After the North Central Predators' long drive to Bownmanville on December 8 the defense of Josh Chase, Brett Cook, Alec Cooke, Ryan Giesler, Kyle Montpetit crashed and banged the Toros around until the forwards got their legs.

In the first period of this AAA Major Midget match, Josh finished a big check to free the puck to Dylan Sontag who made a smooth move on a defense and finished with a deke on the goalie for the first goal. (The team includes Tyler Minnie and Mitch Vasey of the Highland Storm.)

After a first-minute goal by Clarington in the second period the Predators scored two unanswered goals to go up 3-1. Goals were scored by Andrew Csumirk from Luke Aitken and Josh Chase and hard digging in the corner resulted in one by Ben Raney from Tyler Minnie and

Shane Martin. The third period saw good defensive play by the Predators especially in several 5-on-3 situations to keep the score at 3-1 - final.

December 9 vs Quinte

In Trenton on Saturday, the first period remained scoreless. Late in the second period Mitch Vasey received a pass from Dylan Sontag and Alec Cooke to start the scoring. A minute later Josh Chase blasted a pass into the top corner of the net on a power play pass from Alec Cooke.

Midway through the third period Quinte scored short handed to come close but Brett Cook put the game away with a nice goal from Josh Chase and Dylan Sontag. Final score 3-1 for the Predators.

December 11 vs Richmond Hill

Midway through the first period on a 5-on-3 power play Luke Aitken blasted a shot off the back boards

which Wendel Jacobs slapped in for a goal. Two minutes later Andrew Csumirk scored on an identical shot from Alec Cooke. In the second period Richmond Hill scored three goals before the Predators got another power play goal from Marc Smith on a nice cross ice pass from Wendel Jacobs. The third period remained scoreless even though there were many chance at both ends. This was a hard one to lose by one goal.

December 16 vs Barrie

The boys slept through the first period with only six shots on net while Barrie capitalized with three goals. Not until midway through the second period did Andrew Csumirk score off a power shot by Rob Childs. In the third period the boys tried to wake up after Tyler Minnie tapped in a rebound from Ryan Giesler. But there were no more goals in the Predators' sticks.

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Excited crowd greets Santa's arrival



AROUND THE TOWN

Patti Fleury
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email: brucefleury@ptbo.igs.net

Good weather, good cheer and good fun greeted Santa last Sunday afternoon as he made his way in style along Kinmount's Main Street and up to the Legion Branch 441 for refreshments and gift giving. Excited children lined the curb and several of the dogs sported bright red Christmas bows. Adding a country flavour were MPP Laurie Scott on her beautiful black horse, nieces Megan and Rachel Scott riding their ponies, and Gerard Pearson skilfully guiding his team of gentle giants, first timers in the parade, with Santa safely in tow over the bridge.

Colourful, inflatable Christmas balloon-like decorations soared above the floats blending in with traditional carols by the combined churches of Kinmount plus holiday music by the national champion Bracebridge Dixieland Jazz Band led by Warren Brownlee.

Going downstairs this morning the usual seven a.m. darkness of the livingroom was replaced with the warm glow of Christmas tree lights. Two years ago, after a series of spruces which looked much more impressive out in the field, we finally relented and purchased not only an artificial tree but one complete with lights. Now heavy with ornaments, each with a special memory, it stands ready for Santa.

As I write these final words light snow is falling and King is barking excitedly through the window at the red fox tracking across the whitened dooryard. It really is beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Warmest wishes from the old farmhouse to you and yours.

Here are the results from the December 13 Big Bucks Bid Euchre at the Kinmount Legion Branch 441. In first place was Glenda Swanton with Mildred St. Thomas second and Dana Briscoe third. Holding the hidden scores were Dorothy Fieldhouse and Diane Codlin.

With New Year's Eve not far off plan now for a fun-filled evening at the Kinmount Legion with Steve McCullough. The celebration starts at 9 p.m. with a single admission of \$15 and \$25 for a couple. For advance tickets call the Legion at 488-3462 after 4 p.m.

Now for the Scoring News with your usual reminder to keep busy and well. They go together. There will be schedule changes over the holidays so if unsure give your convener a call.

December 12 contract bridge at Stanhope: Leading the scoring at 6780 was Margo Davidson followed by Diana Spicer 6340, Gloria Moore 5450 and Harold Cox 5060. Muriel McIntosh won the lucky draw, Edith Kolarek the Shiny Penny and Margo the M.M.M. Award as she will now be known as Minden's Mighty Mouse. The next contract bridge will be on January 9.

December 12 euchre at Gelert: Lone hand honours went to Don Hicks with Pearl Cowen and Ted Wilkins recording the high scores. Dorothy McElwain and Kevin Maloney tallied up the evening's lows while Joyce Schellenberg won the draw. Harold Harvie reminds there will not be euchre at Gelert on Boxing Day.

December 12 bid euchre at Minden Legion: The top trio were Pat Scadden at 272, Len Kroes at 270 and Marcel Roussel at 269. Moonshots landed on Elva Paisley, Jesse Barlow, Trudy Kroes, Verna McDonald [2], Helen Henderson and Gala Stamp with our reporter Jean Scadden, Helen Luffman, Kevin Maloney and Verna McDonald holding the hidden scores.

December 12 Stanhope Firehall Seniors Mixed Shuffleboard: In first was the duo of Joan Meadows and Helen Skelding with 448 points then Sandy Poulton and George Hamilton at 303. Third spot was captured by Connie Sawyer partnered with Cliff Davison at 237 while Colleen Davison and Jim Meadows posted the low of 179. There will not be shuffleboard on the 26th.

December 13 duplicate bridge at Parklane, Haliburton: Playing the Howell system the leaders at 74% were Margo Davidson and Muriel McIntosh with Jacqueline and Kelly Metcalf next at 62%. Tied for third place at 56% were Judy Neimann partnered with Bill Sandford and Stella McMillan paired with Ross Davies.

December 13 Kinmount Seniors euchre at Kinmount Legion: Luck was with Theresa Deak, our reporter won for both high lady and lone hands. Mildred St. Thomas was low lady, Grant Lees took high man, Mike St. Thomas was low man while Emily Harvie won the draw prize.

December 13 bid euchre at Stanhope: Single moonshots went to Tom Orr, Jean Scadden and Helen Henderson with Pat Scadden, Willie Cox and Jack Cox each taking two. Leading the whites was Pat Scadden

312 followed by Bill Milford 298 and Jack Cox 293 while Willie Cox topped the pinks at 292 with Marj Coffey 266 second and Muriel Harrington 243 third. Gala Stamp thanks everyone for coming out and joining in the Christmas fun and for the gift.

December 14 euchre at Minden Legion: Lone hand holders were Margaret Fletcher and John Mallon with Ron Morrison, Gwen Cox, Ray St. Pierre, Syd Adamson and Helen Skelding taking home the other prizes. High scores were posted by Verna McDonald and Jesse Barlow with Hazel Maxwell and Tom Orr recording the evening's lows. Winners of the turkey draw were Gwen Cox, Gala Stamp, Jim Bradbury and Lois Adamson.

December 15 duplicate bridge at Echo Hills, Haliburton: First place went to Muriel and Doug McIntosh at 67% with Diana Spicer and Margo Davidson next at 59% and Joan Galley teamed up with Ev Murray third at 53%.

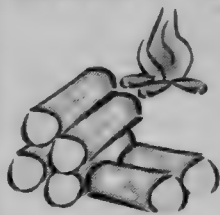
December 15 euchre at Staunworth Court, Minden: Albert Foster won for high hands, Nick Boekestyn for lone hands, Helen Skelding for low hands and Barb Callaghan for the draw. June Branning advises there will not be cards at the Court on Friday, December 22nd.

December 15 bid euchre at Club 35: It was great to hear once again from Mary Pearson with the evening's scores. Mary had a moonshot along with George Bye, Helen Windsor, Linda Lambert and Chris Clarke with Marnie Butler holding the hidden score. Marj Coffey led the pinks at 288 with Jean Randell next at 277 and Mary Pearson 260 third. For the whites George Bye was tops at 265 with Alvin Cowen 260 second and Chris Clarke 253 third.

December 16 bid euchre at Staunworth Terrace, Minden: Moonshots went to Sharon Atkinson and Emily Harvie while Thelma Francis, Ida Young and Elli Langpohl took the draws. High scores were a family affair with Pat Scadden leading the whites at 282 and Jean Scadden first for the pinks at 325. Pat Bailey came second for the whites at 280 and Helen Hendersson 269 third with Isobel Cherwenka second for the pinks at 276 and Pearl Cowen 246 third. There will not be cards on Saturday, December 23rd at the Terrace.

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NOTICES



County of Haliburton Holiday Office Closure

The County of Haliburton Administration Building will be closed from 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 22, 2006 and will re-open for regular business on Tuesday, January 2, 2007. If you wish to leave a message for one of our staff, please call 705-286-1333 and follow the voice mail instructions. Alternatively, visit our website at www.county.haliburton.on.ca to obtain a list of contact information.

The County Roads Department has a 24 hour call answer service (705-286-1762) should you require immediate assistance.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.



CHANGE IN DECEMBER 2006 COUNCIL MEETING

*Please be advised that the
Council Meeting
for the Township of Minden Hills,
scheduled for
December 14th, 2006
has been changed to
December 21st, 2006
at 9:00 a.m.
at the Community Centre.*



NOTICE

Township of Algonquin Highlands

The Regular Meeting of Council
scheduled for

Thursday, January 4, 2007
has been CANCELLED.

The next Regular Meeting will be held
Thursday, January 18, 2007
as previously scheduled.

Angie Bird, A.M.C.T., CMM 1
Clerk-Planning Administrator
R.R. #2, 1123 North Shore Rd.
Minden, ON KOM 2K0
Tel: (705) 489-2379
Fax: (705) 489-3491

COMMUNITY

what's happening
in the Highlands

CALENDAR

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MINDEN ONTARIO

• **Dec. 20:** Ontario Early Years Centre Minden and Haliburton. Our last day open before we break for Christmas will be Wed., Dec. 20. The Centres will re-open on Mon., Jan. 8. The staff of the Ontario Early Years Centres wishes you and your family a Safe and Happy Holiday. **NOTE:** The Children's Learning Centre in Minden will be closed from Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, 2007. We will reopen Jan. 2 to Jan. 5 for regular hours. The School-age program will be at the Day Care not the school for this week.

• **Dec. 22:** Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre – Last Minute Shoppers Party with guests: Outloud Womyn Singers. Friday, from 4-7 p.m.

• **Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve services at St. Paul's Church, Minden at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Everyone welcome.

• **Dec. 24:** Minden United Church, 11 a.m. Joint worship service (for this pastoral charge); Zion United Church, Carnarvon, 3 p.m. Family Service; Minden-United Church, 7 p.m. Family Service; Maple Lake United Church, 9 p.m. Communion service.

• **Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve services held at Gooderham United Church at 7 p.m. and Wilberforce 8:15 p.m.

• **Dec. 28:** VON Foot Care Clinic starting at 9 a.m. Located at Staunworth Court Lounge, Minden. Subsequent clinics the fourth Thurs. of the month. To book an appointment call 1-800-743-6255. Everyone welcome.

• **Dec. 30:** Joint worship service at Minden United Church (for this pastoral charge) at 11 a.m.

• **Dec. 31:** Tracey's Bistro & Grill presents A New Years Eve Casino Night. Casino entertainment includes poker, roulette, blackjack and slot machines. Sunday, 7 p.m. A 3 course meal, party favours, champagne toast at midnight, door prizes, etc. Contact Tracey at 457-2795 or email or email traceysbistrogrill@bellnet.ca for more info and cost. A portion of the proceeds benefits Cottage Dreams.

• **Jan. 6:** Snowmobile Driving Training Course – Pre register to obtain your "Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's License". You must be 12-15 years of age or an adult without a valid driver license. Held at the Cavendish Community Police Hall on Hwy. 507 north of Buckhorn. Lunch is provided at a small cost. Dates: Sat., Dec. 16, 8:30 a.m.; Sat., Jan. 6, 2007, 8:30 a.m. Please call to pre register, Elaine Dittick 457-7038.

• **Jan. 7:** Down to Earth Conversations at Gaia Centre. Sun., 4:30 p.m. View and discuss. An Inconvenient Truth. All welcome to a potluck vegetarian supper. No costs. Please RSVP to 754-2427 or gaiacentre@sympatico.ca

• **Every day a new picture** of Haliburton County, and sometimes beyond. Just visit www.jack-bush.my-expressions.com. every day. A great reminder of why we all love living right here.

• **Haliburton Legion, Br. 129** – Every Wednesday night is Bingo night. Early Bird starts at 7:00 p.m.

• **Haliburton Legion Branch 129** – General Meeting – 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding January & February) at 7:30 p.m. Call 457-2571.

• **Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 636**, Minden holds its General Business Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

• **First Friday of every month:** Open Mike Nite at the Dominion Hotel, Main St. in Minden. Starts at 8 p.m. Local performers needed; musical, comedy, magic, poets, etc. Call 286-6954 or 286-5035 to book your act.

• **The Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge at the Highland Crest Senior Citizen's home in Minden. All men and the women who love them are welcome. For info. please contact Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699.

• **The Minden Women's Institute** meets at 1:30 p.m. every 3rd Wed. of the month. Contact 286-1588 or 754-1656 for information

• **Do you enjoy euchre, bridge, and other card games?** Come to the Card Night at the Fort Irwin's Residents' Assoc. Hall (FIRA) on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. For more info call Ken Fuller at 754-3699.

• **Community Care** Haliburton County has volunteers just waiting to give seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults a Security Check Phone Call. If you know of anyone who needs a phone call once a day, please call Judy at 457-2941.

• **Township of Algonquin Highlands** – Writers Circle every other Saturday at Club 35 starting at 9 a.m. The circle is open to writers of all capabilities, be they experienced or emerging. For info call: 489-3878.

• **Did you know** that Community Care Haliburton County offers nutritiously-balanced frozen meals on wheels. We have transportation services to get you to medical and other appointments. And we offer an Emergency Response System for seniors that want the security of knowing that they can access help at any time, without reaching the telephone. For info. call 457-2941.

• **Family Drop-In Saturdays:** Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre. Last Saturday of every month, 2-4 p.m. Jan. 27, & Feb. 24. Enjoy a free tour of the current exhibition followed by Open Studio activities for the whole family. Call 457-2330.

• **Adult Badminton:** Mondays 8 - 10 p.m. Now until May 28/07 at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Minden. Join us for fun, fellowship & fitness. Call 286-1765 for further information.

• **Tea at 3:** Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre. Every Wednesday, for adults who like to talk about ART and drink tea. 3 o'clock. Free. Call 457-2330.

• **For women** experiencing any type of abuse, call the YWCA Crisis Line at 286-6442 or (800) 461-7656.

• **The Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild** meets every second Wednesday of each month at Camp Adelaide, which is on #118, between Haliburton & Tory Hill. The building is open from 10 a.m. for those who want to do some quilting, etc., and the general meeting starts at 1 p.m. with refreshments at mid-meeting. Guests and new members are welcome. Call Anita Dobell at 457-3723.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavor to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Times at 286-4768, emailed to editor@mindentimes.on.ca, or brought in to the office. **NOTE:** This calendar is **NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LISTING OF ALL EVENTS** taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in The Times for more information on events and in the Highlands.

Dorset's generosity
knows no limits

Dorset, you came through again! On Wednesday, December 6, the Dorset Fire Department, the Dorset Lions, friends, along with four Santas, collected more than 3,000 pounds of food and toys plus cash donations for the annual food and toy drive for the Salvation Army. From everyone at the Salvation Army and all of us a huge thank you!

The first annual Dorset Christmas

Cookie Exchange held on December 14 was a wonderful success. Lorraine Cyopick organized the exchange and invited 10 ladies to bake 10 dozen cookies to share.

Christmas Eve service at St. Mary Magdalene's, Dorset will be on Sunday, December 24 at 11:00 a.m..

There will be no morning service at Knox United Church Sunday, December 24 (on Christmas Eve) but there will be a family service of carols and readings at 4 o'clock. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate Christmas at Knox United. During the months of January, February and March, Sunday services will be at 11:00 a.m..

The Dorset Recreation Centre will close at noon on December 22 and reopen regular hours on January 2, 2007. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the staff at the Recreation Centre.

The newly formed Dorset Book Club

will be meeting at the Dorset Library Branch on Wednesday January 3 at 1:00 p.m.. The title being discussed is *The Stone Carvers* by Jane Urquhart. New members are always welcome and people can contact Ruth or Sandy at the Dorset Branch at 766-9969 for more information.

The winter session of Tai Chi, Chi Kung and Meditation begins at the Dorset Recreation Centre on Tuesday, January 9. All levels including beginners are wel-

come to this nine week sessions. For more information or to register, call the Recreation Centre at 766-9968.

Don't forget to add a Dorset Heritage Museum 2007 Calendar or a "Heritage Cooking, A Collection of Recipes from a Lifetime of Cooking" cookbook to your Christmas list for that someone special. Both are available by calling and leaving a message at the museum at 766-0323.

What if you were told that you are passing up the chance to improve your life every day? There is treasure right around the corner from you and possibly even in your own house? If you are not in the habit of visiting your branch of the Haliburton County Public Library, you are passing up a way to enrich your life.

Birthday wishes for the week of December 17 to 23 go out to Jessica Reilly, Karen Knutt, Olga Cunningham and Betty Learmonth. Celebrate and have fun on your special day!



DORSET NEWS

Melissa Alfano

705-766-0076

melalfano@hotmail.com

The Township of Minden Hills

In Season, Every Season

The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills is looking for local residents to help make decisions about programs and services within Minden Hills, to reflect the demographic makeup of our Township. If you are interested in sitting on one or more of the Township's Advisory Committees of Council, as noted below, we look forward to hearing from you.

Minden Hills Cultural Centre (Museum/ Agnes Jamieson Gallery)
Minden Library Committee
Cemetery Board
Canada Day Committee
Timberfest Committee
Irondale Community Facilities Advisory Committee
Committee of Adjustment

We would kindly ask that you provide us with a Letter of Interest on or before January 5th, 2007, and complete the form provided on our website www.minden.on.ca (or at our office - 2nd floor) by the due date, either by mail, fax, email or dropping same off at the Administration Department, 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Cheryl McCarroll, Clerk
 Township of Minden Hills
 7 Milne Street, Minden
 (705) 286-1260 ext. 214
cmccarroll@county.haliburton.on.ca

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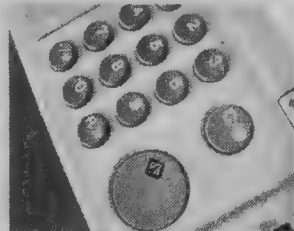
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MERCHANDISE

Appliances A110

FOR SALE - General Electric encore Heavy Duty Washer and Dryer. \$250.00 for both. Call 754-1781 after 6pm. 10471384



Furniture A190
For sale - Traditional Dining room suite. Table with 18" extension - 6 chairs and china cabinet. Phone 705-488-2458. 10470548

Miscellaneous A230

FOR SALE - Craftsman Snowblower 80hp/28 inch well maintained many new parts \$1380.00 705-455-9312 10480239

Miscellaneous A230

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FOR SALE - Option Super Cap Snowboard 162 cm Tall. Like new \$250.00 Call 286-4733. Please leave a message. 10478333

Miscellaneous A230

For sale - Sims Link snowboard bindings. 1 yr. old, asking \$150 OBO. 1 periwinkle helmet, size medium, asking \$50 OBO. Call 489-3548 after 6pm. 10478925

FOR SALE - Snowblower for ATV 48" 13 HP USED 1 season, less than 6 hours sells new for \$2800.00 will sacrifice for \$2000.00. Pelaw Lake area 705-457-5718 10467725

Miscellaneous A230

For sale - waxless cross country skis, 2 pairs, 197 cm, used 3 times. Boots, poles, and skis, \$75 each or both for \$125. Call for details. 286-4979. 10480315

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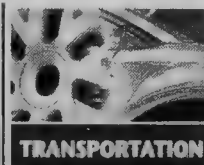
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Miscellaneous A230

Cars A400

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THE TIMES 286-1288

DON'T FORGET!
EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE CLASSIFIEDS
For The Tuesday January 2nd Issue of the Echo
Deadline is Thursday December 28th
For The Wednesday January 3rd Issue of the Times
Deadline is Friday December 29th
A Happy Holiday Season Wish to All of Our Readers

Cars A400

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EDUCATION

NOTICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OSPREY CLASSIFIEDS

Coming Events A940

Aquasize with Community Care 9:30 - 10:30 at Wigamog Inn. Mon & Wed., begins January 15th. Cost \$105.00 for 10 weeks. Call today to book. (705) 457-2941.

Minden Health Care Auxiliary Gift shop will be closed from Dec. 24 to Jan. 1 and re-open Jan. 2 for great shopping!

Coming Events A940

Shop at the Pritchard House for Christmas Gifts. Haliburton Weavers' Guild opens the shop in Dec. Tues-Sat. 10:30am-4:30pm.

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To all MHCA members: There will be no meeting in January. Next meeting is on February 1st at 1:30pm.

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Announcements

Births

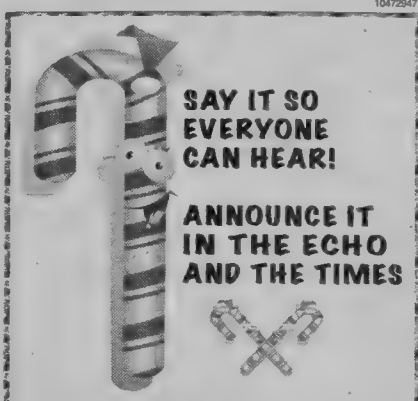


IT'S A BOY!

Craig & Stephanie Crowe along with big brother Colin are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of Jamie Alexander, born November 21, 2006 at Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz. Proud grandparents are Wayne & Dale Toye of Carnarvon and Don & Opal Crowe of Minden.

Announcements/greetings

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! St. Luke 12:3. *Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.*
- Love, from Simone.



Card of thanks

WILDE - I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to my family and friends for the expressions of sympathy, food, cards, flowers and the many donations in memory of Rod. A special thank you to Kirsten and Barry of Monks Funeral Home for the compassion and understanding during this difficult time. Thank you to Rev. Tim Sharpe for your guidance, kind words and the lovely service. The Minden UCW for the delicious luncheon served. Sincere thank you to Dr. S. Kaszas, the Access Centre support workers and nurses for the wonderful care and concern you gave both of us during the time Rod was at home. A very special thank you to Dorothy and Kathaleen - for much more than just your friendship this past year. It will always be remembered. Thank you to all for the loving support.
- Chris Wilde

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In memoriam

YOUNG, Marjorie - In loving memory of a great Mom who passed away December 25, 1996.

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It broke our hearts to lose you,
You did not go alone.*

*For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide.*

*And though we cannot see you,
You are always by our side.*

- Sadly missed by Connie, Rob and Scott, and grandchildren.

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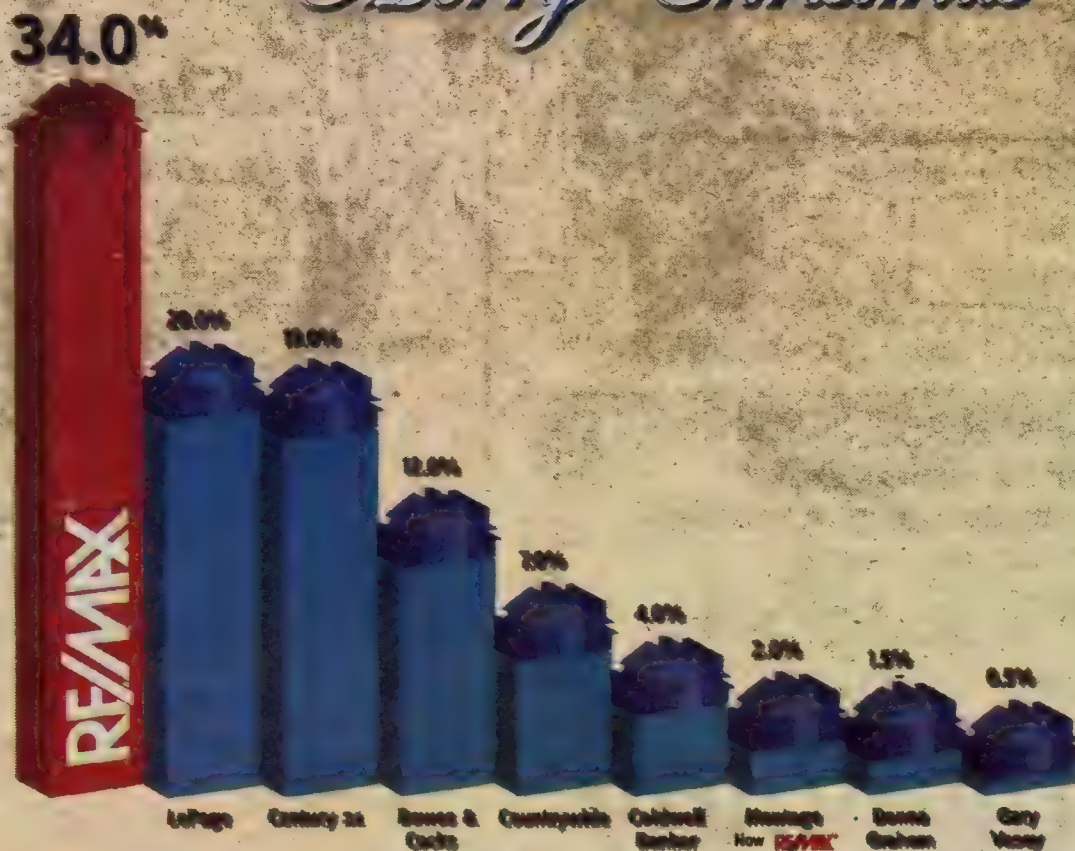


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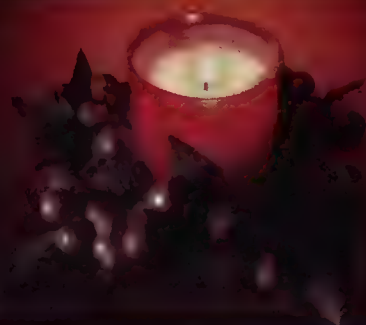
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season's greetings

Christmas
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THE MINDEN TIMES

M. T. 20-12-2006.

The magic of memories of Christmases past

WHY DO WE FIND children's stories about Christmas so touching? Probably because they help us rekindle the magic that we once felt.

As adults, our feelings about the holiday season are infused with a nostalgic glow. The excitement that made it impossible to sleep on Christmas Eve. The amazing bounty of presents under the tree. The broken rules about no

candy before breakfast (or lunch or dinner for that matter.) The arrival of relatives we rarely see.

As children, we are blissfully unaware of the stress of getting ready for the holidays. The shopping for presents, the preparation of the great meal, the social whirl which, while fun, can also be a bit exhausting. Did we remember to buy something for Uncle Joe? What can I make ahead for Christmas brunch? Are there a few extra hours hidden away somewhere for sleep?

Of course, everyone, no matter how old they are, loves to receive presents and it's such a joy to be surrounded by the people you love (once they've all arrange their complicated timetables to

accommodate everyone's family commitments.) But what really motivates us are those memories of Christmases past. We need Christmas to be special.

This year the *Times'* Christmas Greeting Supplement looks at Christmas through children's eyes but instead of reading lists of what children want for Christmas, the children have shared some of their Christmas memories. As a result, readers get more than a compendium of the season's hottest items on the wish list. These stories are endearing in both their simplicity and their deep understanding of what makes Christmas embed itself into our psyches.

Thanks for this go to the children, of course, but also the Writer in Residence program at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Pauline Johnson worked with teachers at Archie Stouffer Elementary School to encourage children to hone their writing skills and stoke up their imaginations. By offering prizes as an incentive, thanks to the Friends of the Library, the students had even more of a reason to think beyond the traditional



"Dear Santa" letter.

As the pages unfold, readers will be grateful for such commitment and enthusiasm. Our thanks to everyone involved with such a wonderful idea.

From all the advertisers in this year's supplement, may this Christmas be a time you will hold in your heart forever.

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SEASONS GREETINGS

The Ice Cream Moon

My grandmother loves to tell all kinds of stories about our family, Christmas past and growing up. She is true writer, always willing to share her experience with us.

But there's one story that particularly stands out in my mind, and that is the story of the Ice Cream Moon.

One Christmas, my grandma did something extra special. She wrote a story just for us. One Christmas morning, I was delighted to unwrap a beautiful book written by her. It was something special, and something I would cherish.



The book, entitled "The Ice Cream Moon" was a story about my grandma telling us, the grand kids, about grandpa, who we'll call "Poppa." In "Ice Cream Moon" my grandma teaches us about Poppa's life growing up in the wilderness of northern Ontario, while we sit on the moonlit front step, happily licking some deliciously sweet ice cream cones. It

is during this time that we discover the meaning of ice cream moon: to share your life, carry on family traditions and preserve the past.

I keep that book on my shelf, where it is always close by. It inspires me to share my own stories.

My grandma, Marg, has written a second book called "Another Ice Cream Moon" about her family, and is working on a third about our extended family.

I hope I can continue this tradition of writing and sharing, so that some day, I can teach my own children about the Ice Cream Moon.

By Teghan Lynne Dodds, Grade 8

My Family Christmas Tradition

You might say my family is odd. You might say this because as you know, lots of people when they get their Christmas trees just get in their car and drive to Home Hardware and buy a tree. Our family doesn't care about the perfect looking trees, or trees that have their branches in place pointing up. My family tradition is chopping down our own tree from the forest.

First in November we go to the field at our friend's house with a plastic bag. We wonder around looking for a pine tree that will fit in our living room and that looks at least semi nice. Once we find the right tree we tie the bag around it. In December we then pull on our snow pants, hats, mitts, coats, boots and of course the axe. We drive to the field where we marked our tree and tromp through the snow singing our little hearts out! We look, and look, and look until...Dad! Mom! I found the tree! There it is! Our tree! Our new Christmas tree! Of course there is a little fight over who gets the first swing of the axe between my sister and I. Then my heroic mother says why doesn't your dad do it first. Well that settles it every time. We both end up getting a swing or two until it is down while my mom video tapes us.

We drag the tree through the snow and tie it on the roof of our car. When we get home we put it up and decorate it while listening to Christmas music. Tara and I line up all our ornaments that we made, our grandparents gave us and one that our parents gave us. Once all the ornaments, lights, and tinsel are placed professionally around the tree mom hops on dad's shoulders and gracefully puts the angel on the top of the tree. Our tree is done and stands proud in all it's glory. That is one of our family traditions.

By Maia O'Sullivan, Grade 6

A Special Nativity

Ah Christmas, my favourite time of year when all of my family members get together and celebrate the season of happiness and joy. We do some normal things like decorate our house and Christmas tree, sing Christmas carols, have a Christmas dinner and open presents in the morning but we also do other things too like make up a Christmas play and run around our driveway throwing hay into the air for the reindeer while singing Christmas carols at the top of our lungs! (I wonder how the neighbours feel about that). This is the typical O'Sullivan Christmas and this is why I love Christmas so much.

Our grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and our friends all get together for the holidays. On Christmas Eve we have a special supper. When we are all finally full we play the piano and guitar and sing Christmas carols beside the fire with cookies in our hands. We usually do about ten songs before we act out the Christmas nativity scene.

I remember one Christmas when my little sister, who was about nine years old, decided that this year she wanted to be Mary instead of being my mom being Mary. Mom had no problem with that was she decided that being the donkey was much more fun. My sister stuffed her shirt with a pillow, pretending to be pregnant and when they got to the bar in Bethlehem she



See next page



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*With Best Wishes
at Christmas*

*It's time for laughter and peace on earth
For merriment and joy and mirth
It's a time for caring for one another
Mother, Father, Sister, Brother
It's a time for hope and reflection, too
For goodwill and prayer and faith, anew
It's a time for sharing and giving too
Our gratitude to each of you!*

Merry Christmas and Many Thanks

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SEASONS GREETINGS

gave birth. Christmas is always full of laughs.

After our skit is done we all say what Christmas means to us. It's usually that same thing for everybody. To most of us Christmas means togetherness, love, peace and happiness. We eventually have to go to bed even though the kids do not want to. My sister Maia and I try not to sleep but eventually our eyelids get very heavy for us to hold them up.

On Christmas Maia and I are the first ones up but we aren't allowed to go downstairs until everybody is up so we go around waking people up by jumping on their beds and giving them a hug. When everybody is awake we look at our stockings and then take our time opening presents and looking at each person's gift. We are always very hungry when we are done so we have a large breakfast.

There is no favourite part of Christmas for me, I just love it all! It's almost time for Christmas now and when this Christmas is over there will only be 364 days until next Christmas!

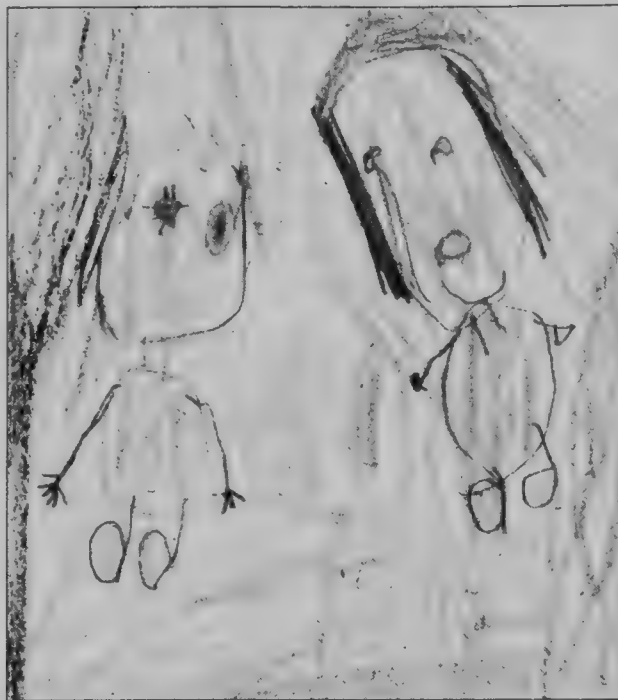
By Tara O'Sullivan, Grade 8

The following are Christmas Memories from Michelle Coneybear's Grade 1 Class

Memories Feel Good

Every Christmas I have a big dinner. My grandma and grandpa, uncle and aunt, and my other uncle come to dinner. It is usually at my house. We usually have mashed potatoes with gravy. I like these memories because I feel good. It makes me happy and it makes me proud. I like Christmas and I like it cause the family gets together.

By Aidan Garbutt



Cookies for Santa

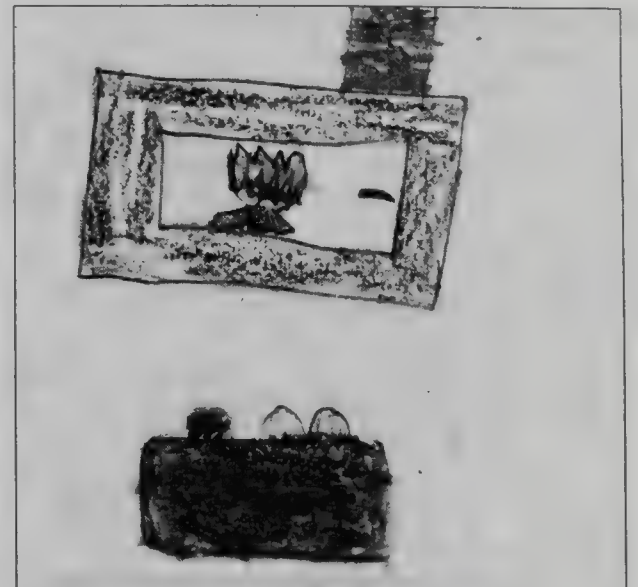
Every Christmas I make cookies for Santa. I help my mom put up Christmas lights. They look like bells. They have sprinkles. They taste like chocolate chips. We work at the kitchen table. My sister helps too! She helps with the sprinkles, I help put the chocolate chips on the cookies. My favorite part is licking the bowl when my mom makes the cookies. She lets me do that for the Christmas cookies only. It makes me happy because the cookies taste so good! My sister like it too!

By Dawson Hamilton

A Visit to Santa's Village

Every Christmas I remember going to Santa's Village. My family goes too. I feel happy.

By Seth Smith



Sitting By The Fire

Every Christmas we sit in front of the fire and drink hot chocolate. Our mom and dad are with us. It is very warm. We sit in front of the fire in our basement. We roast marshmallows and get all warm and cozy in a soft fluffy blanket. We talk about having lots of fun at my families house. We feel warm inside and joyful.

By Sara Bull



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SEASONS GREETINGS

Singing by the Tree

My favorite Christmas memory is sitting around the Christmas tree and singing songs. Grandpa and grandma invite us to the house for a Christmas dinner. My mom and my dad and my grandma and grandpa and I read Christmas stories too. It makes me think about Santa coming on Christmas day. I feel happy because of surprises coming.

By Owen Smith

Chocolate Milk for Santa

Last Christmas I made a gingerbread house with my brother. In my house me and my family always leave Santa cookies and chocolate milk on top of the fireplace. I feel good.

By Matthew Manning

Snowmobiling Together

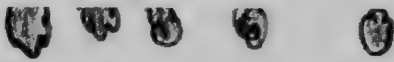
Every Christmas we make a gingerbread house. Me and mom build it together. We use sparkles and jelly beans. I felt happy.

By Mack Moynes

A Time With My Brother

Every Christmas I make a gingerbread house. I make it with my brother. I feel happy.

By Connor McAlister



Gingerbread Goodness

Every Christmas me and my grandma make a gingerbread house. We use candy. Me and my grandma make a gingerbread house. I feel very good.

By Jesse Sisson

Don't Get Splashed!

My favorite Christmas memory is snowmobiling. My dad, my mom and me go snowmobiling. We go in the bush with my brother too! When my dad and I went over a puddle, my dad told me to put my hood on. I didn't get splashed and it was fun!

By Lucas Bortolussi

Make Your Own Decorations

Every Christmas I build a decoration for the Christmas tree. I just build it by myself. I make it and put it all over the tree. It happened at home. It made me feel good.

By Emma Weiss

These stories are by Mr. Darlington's Grade 2 Class

Time for Family

My favourite Christmas memory is when I decorate my house with one tree in the living room. I also put decorations on the tree like Santa and a star on top. We put up wreaths, candles, and greenery. Me and my family bake cookies. I sing Christmas carols. I did this at my Mom's house. Me and my best friend write about Christmas. I like this memory because it was fun and I see my family.

By Ryan

Tis the Season

It's such a treat to be able to extend our sincere thanks for your business over the past year. Our very warmest wishes to you all. May you have a truly joyful holiday season.

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for a Safe
& Happy
Holiday
Season

SEASONS GREETINGS

Grandpa's Asleep on the Couch

Once my grandpa slept on the living room couch on Christmas Eve. This Christmas is the first time I am going to have a star on the tree. I am with family and friends on Christmas Eve to play with, have lots of fun, and open presents.

By Sam G.

A Party With Cousins

Every Christmas I hang up my stocking, watch late movies, decorate the tree and bake goodies for me and my family. One Christmas memory was when my dad, Lisa and I decorate the Christmas tree. My mom and dad, a few cousins and my brother and sister. It hap-

pened at my own house but our cousins came to us. We had a great time but when the party was over we felt very sad! I like this memory because it is lots of fun and we had a great time!

By Robbie Hall and Helper Christopher Hall 5A

A Big Turkey Dinner

Every Christmas I like to do a lot of things. I give friends and family Christmas cards, we also have a big turkey dinner, we visit our friends and every year we watch The Grinch and open presents.

In my family there are my aunts, uncles, cousins, grandma, grandpa, sisters, mom and dad. I like the memories that I have with friends and family at

Christmas because they make me happy and they are special.

By Nathan Crowe

The students in Sue Smallwood and Laurie Marks-O'Sullivan's were asked to finish the following sentence: At Christmas time my family likes to...

A Star for the Top of the Tree

At Christmas time my family likes to make a star for the top of the Christmas tree and we like to decorate a Christmas tree and to go sledding. Last, but not least, we have a Christmas dinner with the family.

By Shelby Cassidy



Shawn Hagerman* Curtis Eastmure*
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	Shawn Woodard



Let The Joy Of Christmas Ring

This, our favourite time of year, is filled with good friends, good times, and much good cheer. Here's wishing you happy holidays and a very healthy and happy new year!

From the Management and Staff

CIBC

Haliburton • Minden



Welcome Christmas!

When it comes to our neighbours, our doors are always open. We really appreciate your stopping by. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year.



(705) 286-1424
136 Main Street, Minden
(JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE)

SEASONS GREETINGS

Make a Snowman

At Christmas time my family likes to make gingerbread houses and decorate our Christmas tree. Also, we like to open presents. Making snowmen is fun too. Have a family Christmas dinner at grandma's is the most fun.

By Bethany Erin Camrain

These stories are by Grade 2 and Grade 5/6 students.

The Christmas Deer

By Skye Davis, Alyssa Stiver, Billy Vanstone, and Garret Upton

Our story begins in a small village, with a small family. The small family was getting ready for Christmas. Alyssa the smallest child got to put the angel on the top of the tree. While Alyssa was putting the decorations on the tree Billy was snooping at the presents. Billy and Alyssa were called for dinner, when dinner was over Alyssa and Billy stared out the window. They saw some deer looking for food in the snow. Their mom Skye told them to go and get their father. Billy,



Alyssa, and their father Garret fed them some carrots. After that the deer ran in to the forest and the family sang Christmas carols then they all went to bed. As Billy and Alyssa ran down stairs wanting to open all of their presents. Billy looked under the tree and the only two one was from Alyssa and the other one was from Santa. When Alyssa looked out the window they saw their dad with two deer. Billy and Alyssa ran out side to the deer. On one of the deer's antler it said to Billy and on the other deer's antler it said to Alyssa. They were allowed to keep the deer because they lived on a small farm.

The Perfect Christmas

By Hunter Francis, Tyler Johnson-Perrin, Sarah Bath, and Colt Stevenson

In a long narrow field there lived a farmer. His name was Farmer Brown. He owned about 12 cows and a horse named Princess.

One day the bell rang which meant that Christmas was coming. Farmer brown went into town to get Eliza a gift but the stores were all sold out. He decided to make her a wooden duck. He painted it brown with hazel eyes and a yellow bill.

He outlined it in black.

Eliza said, "Christmas is coming." Farmer Brown got all nervous and sweaty. He was going to go get more fir wood and was getting all nervous about Christmas.

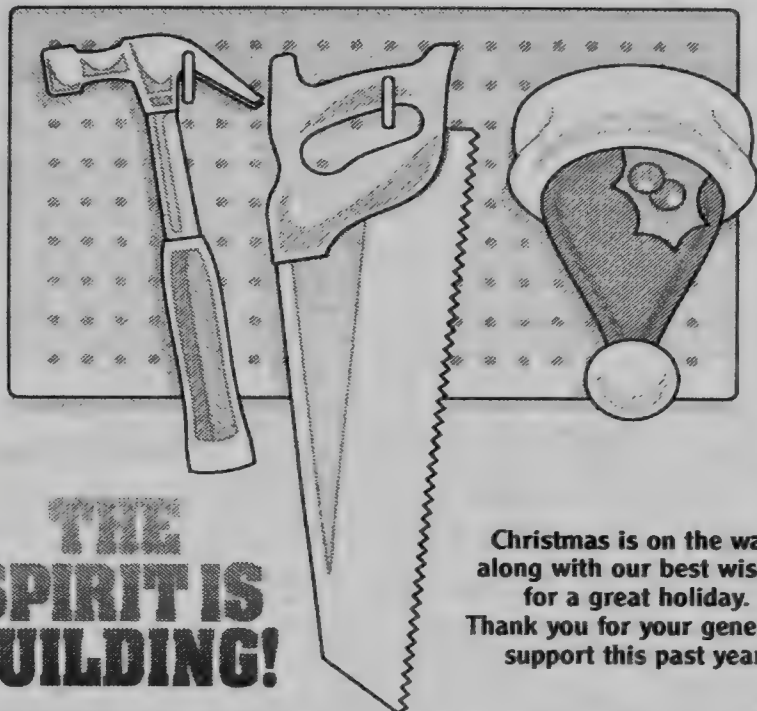
He lit up the fireplace with all the wood he found.

"Snoring," Eliza was sleep walking in the halls.

"Eliza go to bed!" yelled Farmer Brown. So she ran back to her bed.

Farmer Brown was getting hungry so he went downstairs to get some bread and milk. He looked in the living room and there stood a Christmas tree. It was lit up from head to toe. The angel on the tree was brighter than the moon. There was a present that was shaped like a duck. Eliza shook it as hard as she could and still didn't know what it was.

Farmer Brown went downstairs and saw Santa. Santa took one warm chocolate chip cookie as if it was just made. Then Santa took the glass of milk and drank it so he would not get caught. He went up the chimney and shouted with joy saying "HO HO HO, Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night, as he disappeared into the night.



Christmas is on the way,
along with our best wishes
for a great holiday.
Thank you for your generous
support this past year.

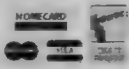
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BUILDING CENTRE**

286-1351

Bobcaygeon Road
Minden

FAX: 705-286-4544



With warm wishes for a joyous holiday season to all
the people we've had the pleasure to serve this year.

Best wishes from Rich, Pete & all the Staff.

Live well with

PHARMASAVE

Minden Drug Store

110 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden (705) 286-1220

**With Our
Thanks!**

We know you've
been really good,
especially to all of
us, and we wish
you the very best
holiday season
and our sincere
thanks to you for
making this a
wonderful year.
Steve, Don, Ann,
Wilfred, John,
Owen & Tim.

**DON BARKER
HEATING & COOLING**



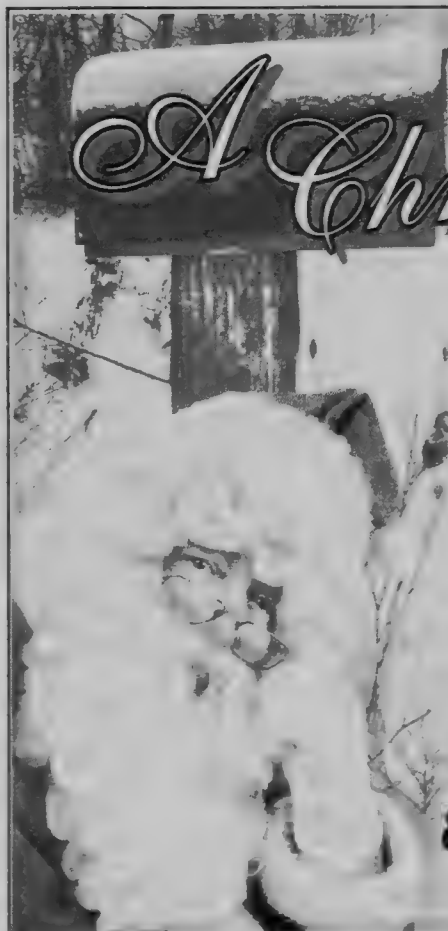
*A Christmas
Wish*

Here's hoping our many
friends enjoy a season filled
with bundles of magic and
love.

Thank you for being
so nice to us!

**TOM PRENTICE
& SONS TRUCKING**

Tom and Family



A Christmas to Remember

By Aurora Acorn, Mackenzy Jewett, Sarah Ridsdale and Jaimie Warham

One Christmas my dad went to get a Christmas tree and marked it with an angel. When dad marked it with the angel he ran home to tell Aurora, Mackenzy, Sarah and Jaime that he found the perfect Christmas tree.

When they all heard the good news they dropped whatever they were doing and followed Dad to the toboggan and went into the forest to get the tree.

When they got there somebody had already cut it down and took it. Whoever it was left tracks in the snow. The tracks in the snow led into a town called Hillville. Then tracks led into the forest round the houses and back where the tree had been.

The family was very tired and headed back home. When they got home their mother had the tree that they had wanted and had it decorated.



Finding Santa

By Leah Berry, Brandon Hoyes, B.J. Archer and Seth Babineau

One year, some kids were disappointed with their Christmas presents. They decided to go to the North Pole to see Santa Claus.

Leah and Seth were hiking to the North Pole to find Santa Claus because they didn't get their special presents from Santa. All they found was some penguins so they just kept travelling to find Santa.

Seth yelled, "Look! It's Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer!"

When they got closer, it was just a pole with a red light on it so Leah said, "Just give up were not going to find Santa."

Leah dropped her arms in disappointment and her hand hit the button on her shoe. She started to fly and Leah said, "Seth push the button on your shoe."

Seth did and he started to fly. Seth saw Santa fly by in his sled. They grabbed a hold of Santa's sled and they yelled, "Santa!"

He stopped and then gave them saw new snowmobiles since they weren't

happy with their old presents. Leah and Seth went back home and they liked their presents this year.

Going to Get the Tree with Dad

By Joey Voicey

Dad and I went to get a tree. We took the ski-doo up in the bush on the Scotch Line Road. It was a 3 foot tree, very bushy. My dad chopped and I pulled at the branch. It fell on me.

Dad got the ski-doo and a rope and pulled it off me. I wasn't hurt so I helped Dad pull it to the edge. We put it in a box and tied it closed. It was starting to snow and we could hear the ice cracking so we gunned the ski-doo and got out of there.

When we got home we took it in the house and the family decorated it together. Mom had pizza and hot chocolate ready for us. I felt happy because I went with dad alone to get the tree but we decorated it as a family together.

It was an awesome Christmas.

Denise Leblanc
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Bus: (705) 286-1234 ext. 232
Fax: (705) 286-2222
Res: (705) 286-6933
E-Mail: deniseleblanc458@hotmail.com
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The name "Friends recommend to friends" Free Property Evaluation

This ad entitles you to free property evaluation. I will be pleased to provide this service without further obligation to you.

Please call me to arrange an appointment.



Season's Greetings

I would like to thank family, friends and all of my past

& present clients for making 2006 my best year ever.

I wish all of you good health, great prosperity

and much happiness for 2007.

Denise LeBlanc



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and may Joy, Peace and Happiness be with you throughout the whole year!

Township of Minden Hills Offices

Hours of Operation

Friday, December 22nd, 2006	OPEN
Monday, December 25th, 2006	
to Monday, January 1st, 2007	CLOSED
Tuesday, January 2nd, 2007	OPEN

LANDFILL SITES

All landfill sites will be **CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY** and **NEW YEAR'S DAY** otherwise, regular dates and times will apply.

People Everywhere Share The Dream Of Peace

This special season, we join with all faiths to pray that the world continues on its way toward realizing that dream.

Happy Holiday

Thank you for your continued support.

Gord, Debbie and Shirley

HALIBURTON & MINDEN HEARING SERVICE



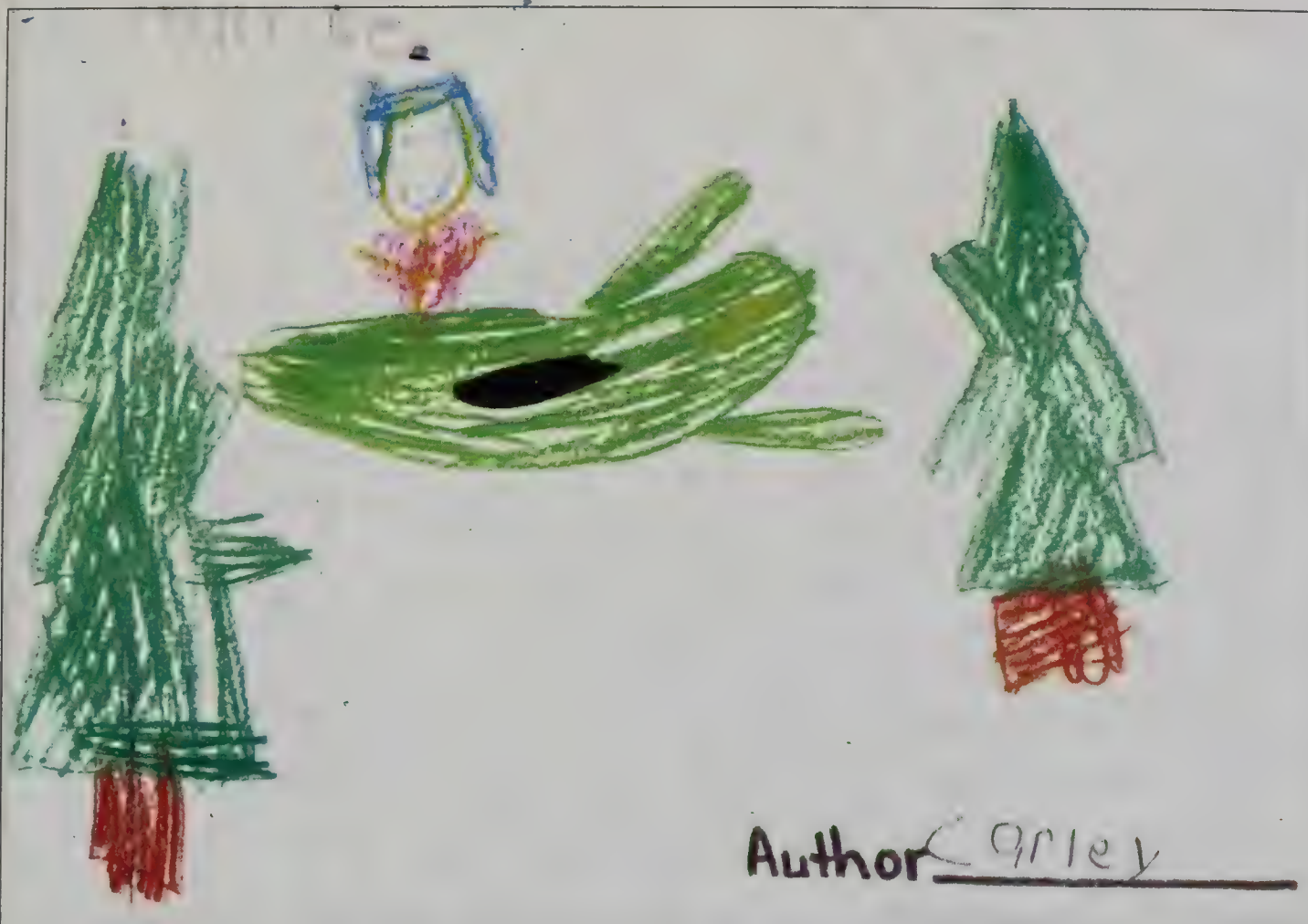
SEASON'S GREETINGS



When Christmas approaches, we turn our thoughts to you, our dear friends and patrons. We send you our heartfelt blessings and our hopes for renewed togetherness among all of nature's creations throughout the world. Thank you for your ever-loyal support and friendship.

Jan's Hair Affair
INGOLDSBY • 286-3182

SEASONS GREETINGS



Snowmobiling in the Field

Every Christmas I go snowmobiling. I am riding in the field with my dad. I feel happy. My sister goes with me and my mom. I ride on my little snowmobile. It is fun to be with family.

By Carley Duncan

Holiday Greetings

Louie's Car Care & Detail Centre
New Phone 457-4735
705-754-2413

153 Mallard Rd.
Industrial Park
Haliburton

Yes, We wash away salt, sand & grime
All Winter in our Heated Garage!

**Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year**

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Decking the WALLS! till DECEMBER 22

@ Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre
23 York Street, Haliburton OPEN Wed-Sat 10-5

We are blessed with the caring, support and friendship
of many people at Christmas and throughout the entire year.

You are the "Community" in Community Living!!

Season's Greetings

from Community Living Haliburton County

"Thank You",
is the best expression
we know to show our
appreciation for your
friendship and loyalty.
Merry Christmas and
many "thanks"!
Management & Staff
of
**Vasey Insurance
Brokers Ltd.**
Minden & Haliburton

Here's hoping your Holiday
delivers an abundance of cheer.
We appreciate your support
throughout the past year.

Jim, Jacquie & Staff

NAPA AUTO PARTS
"Get the Good Stuff"

There's no
Place like
Home...
Especially
at
Christmas

If home is
where the
heart is, ours
is certainly with
the people
we've had the
privilege to
serve this year.
We're proud to
be part of this
community
and wish you
all a very
Merry Holiday
Season.

Chuck, Sue, Katlyn, Judy, Phil, John & Chance
HIGHLANDS PLUMBING
MINDEN

**Season's
Greetings**

from
**Rick & Shannon
Harding**
& the staff at
**Minden Metal
Recycling**



Greetings of the Season

*May the coming season
bring renewal, growth
and good times to you
and your loved ones.*

*Thank you for your
loyal readership!*

Sarah Adams
Joanne Bancroft
Marc Bonitatibus
Donna Brohm
Sheila Burke
Gary Burke
Laura Chowzun
Laurie Curry
Linda Emmerson
Greg Hoekstra
Casey Lessard
Bob McNaul
Leroy Mowatt
Sharon Murison
Don Pasquino
Martha Perkins
Renzo Rosati
Sabrina Sisson
Don Smith
Laura Smith
Marcus Stong
Buffy Wilson
Jamie Woodman
Jessica Young
David Zilstra

SEASONS GREETINGS



Grandma Hides All the Presents

One Christmas my grandma hid presents at my house. I ride my four wheeler. I feel happy because I get to ride on it.

By Ryan Prentice

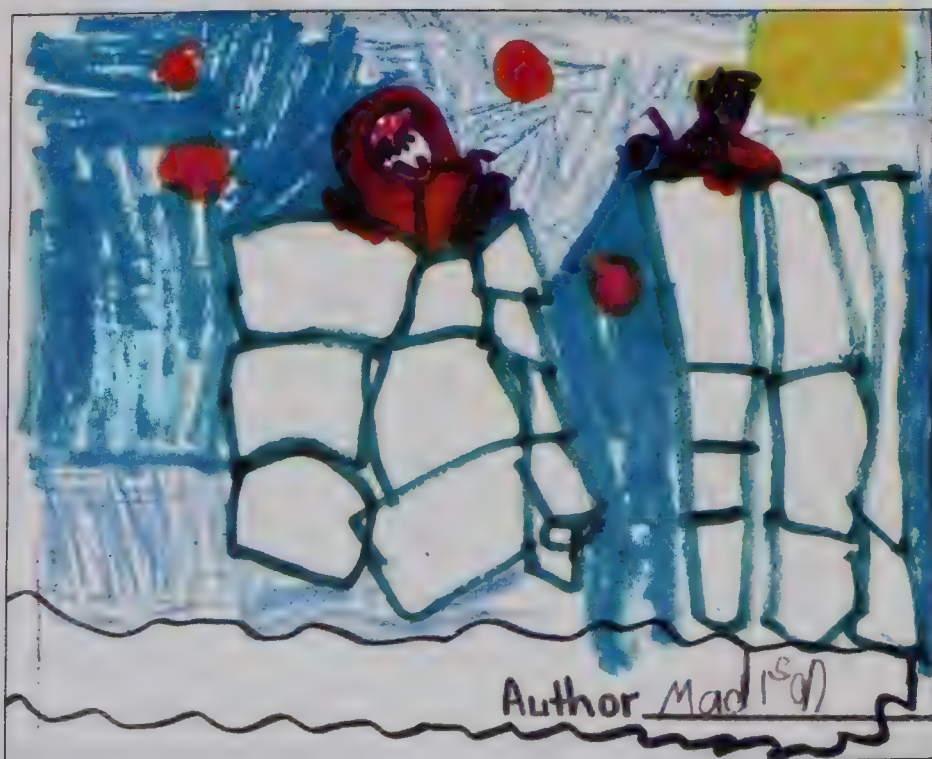
The staff and management would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those that supported us this year.

EMMERSON LUMBER LTD.

MAPLE AVE., HALIBURTON 457-1550 www.emmersonlumber.com

HOLIDAY HOURS
 Dec. 20 - 7:30 - 1:30
 Dec. 24 - 10:00 - 1:00
 Dec. 25 - Christmas CLOSED
 Dec. 26 - Boxing Day 10:00 - 1:00
 Dec. 27 - 7:30 - 1:00
 Dec. 28 - 7:30 - 1:00
 Jan. 1 - New Year's Day CLOSED

SEASONS GREETINGS



Snowball Fights with Ma and Pa

Every Christmas eve I go to my ma and pa's and have a snowball fight. On Christmas eve we go for a walk to the railroad track. I like this memory because

I feel so happy to spend time with my family.

By Madison Allaire



Presents Beside the Tree

Every Christmas my uncle comes to my house. When my uncle gets there we open presents in the living room beside

the tree. I feel happy about Christmas.

By Nikki Weber



One Christmas I had a snowball fight with my sister Grace and we had fun.

By Alex Kim



A House You Can Eat

At Christmas I make a gingerbread house with my two sisters and my brother. I love to eat the gingerbread house after it is made. I feel sad because I eat it

alone. My sister and my brother don't like it.

By Nick Klochkoff

Holiday Greetings
from
Tara, Teresa, Brad, Wendy, Mike & Mary

Cordell CARPET interiors

Holiday Hours
Wednesday, Dec. 13th **Closed at 4:30 for staff Christmas Party**
Monday, Dec. 25th - **CLOSED** • Tuesday, Dec. 26th - **CLOSED**
Wednesday, Dec. 27th **Open for regular business hours 8-5:30 weekly**
Closed Monday, January 1st, 2007

County Road 21 West, Haliburton • 457-2022

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

DAWSON INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.

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"We'll be there when you need us"

One Christmas

By Adam Spencer

It was a snowy, cold winter. I woke up and ran downstairs. There was lots of presents. I ran back upstairs and woke up my sisters and my one annoying brother. I told them that Santa had come and there were lots of presents. We were all very excited and ran down the stairs laughing and shouting Santa has been here.

We all sat on the floor around the Christmas tree. Mom and Dad passed out the gifts. I got a hot wheels race track. I got a little monster candy cane, and lots of candies. I was very happy but annoyed too at my brother because he punched me.

Christmas Morning

By Justin Bailey and Alex Wilbee

One early Christmas morning my brother woke me up and said "Let's go downstairs and look in our stocking." All of a sudden my mom woke up and said to me, "Mike, what are you doing?" "We are looking in our stockings" I said.

After mom was done her coffee we opened our presents. I got everything I wanted. The End.

I like this memory because this makes me feel great opening presents.

Christmas Day

By Justin Bailey and Ryan Hannah
My favourite Christmas memory is getting up early to look at the presents under the tree.

A long, long time ago my dad was not able to come home on Christmas Eve because he was still in the war.

The next day was Christmas day and we got to open presents and at the end there was one present left. As I started opening it my dad popped out. "Yeah! Yeah! Dad is here!"

I like this memory because it makes me feel great about opening presents.

Christmas Day

By Haley Acorn and Shelby Murdoch

Every Christmas my Grandpa, Grandma and Aunt come up to my house for dinner. I have to set the table.



We have potatoes, turkey, stuffing, corn and rice for dinner.

When we wake up we open gifts and we have pancakes for breakfast. When we're done we get dressed and go outside. We go tobogganing and snowmobiling. Then, we build forts and have snowball fights.

Sometimes I fall and I get hurt so my Grandma, Grandpa and Aunt have to help me. When I get better we go back into the house and have hot chocolate. At night time, my Grandpa, Grandma and Aunt go home. We have a great Christmas day!

Helicopter

By Tanner Hamilton and Chris Thompson

One Christmas I got a toy helicopter. The wings were orange and black. It had tinted windows. Every night it turned on and sometimes it made me stay awake all night.

I like this memory because the helicopter is special and it brings back happy memories.





...with Bright Wishes



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN
LEGION
AND LADIES
AUXILIARY BRANCH
636 MINDEN**

We wish to Thank Everyone in Minden and surrounding areas for your patronage in our Legion Branch in 2006.
To all who have assisted us in many different ways,
thank you for another successful year.

We Wish you a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Happy Holidays



Donna MacDonald
Executive Director



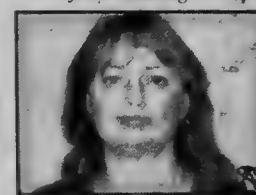
Roxanne Casey



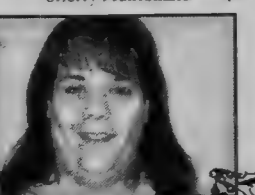
Judy Cumming



Sherry Mulholland



Ida Schultz



Sheri Deterling



Community Care
HALIBURTON COUNTY
457-2941

"People Helping People"



DAVE LORI JANINE ANN BETH ALICE SUE

**Dave, Michele, Melanie, Luke & Emily Shapiera
Along with the staff
Lori, Janine, Ann, Beth, Alice, Sue and Tracey**

Our Best Holiday Wishes To You.

Have A Very Merry Season With Family & Friends.
Thank You For Your Support & Loyalty.

DAVID A.P. SHAPIERA B.A., LL.B.
Barrister & Solicitor

Christmas at My Uncle's

By Mac MacNaull and Matt Compton

I went to my uncles hunting camp before Christmas last year. My cousins and I went ice fishing, we didn't catch anything. After ice fishing we had marshmallows and hot chocolate, it was good! Then we had a snowball fight and went sledding it was fun! I like this memory because I had fun when I was there.

The Christmas Tree Accident

By Courtney Loucks and Ashley Anderson

My favourite Christmas memory was when I was a little girl. My dad placed me under the Christmas tree. He left to get the camera.

While he was gone, I reached up and pulled the Christmas tree on myself.

Mom heard a big noise. She came running in a panic picked up the tree, and saw I was ok.

Now every Christmas we laugh and talk about that Christmas memory. It makes me feel proud my parents remember that.

The Missing Gift

by Nicole Norton, Ula Swiezawska and Maria Perrin

A long time ago, around the year 1837, Mary was excited because there was going to be a class Christmas party.

Mary, a seven year old girl, went to school in an old wooden building named Sea Turtle Elementary School. Mary had twin sisters that were older than her. Their names were Elizabeth and Anne. They were 13 years old and went to high school. The name of their high school was Pioneer Secondary School.

The girls were on their way to Mary's school to be Secret Santas. After recess, Mary's class came inside and saw gifts under the Christmas tree. "It must be Secret Santa time!" yelled Mary.



"Quiet down Mary!" responded the teacher. "It's time to exchange gifts everyone."

Everyone got gifts, except Mary. The teacher found Mary's gift in the red bag that once held all the presents. She ran to Mary and gave her the gift and Mary was very happy!

All the kids were happy while the teacher wrote on the board.. Merry Christmas! The End.

A Wonderful Christmas

By Lisa Kim, Mercedes Vanmeer, Jamie Little, and Brittany Gautreau

A long time ago in a castle, in a forest there were three young girls, a mom, and a dad. The three young girls names were Mercedes, Brittany, and Jamie. They liked and believed in fairies.

On a clear Christmas Eve the girls were eating. They were talking about how much they loved fairies so they asked their parents to buy them a fairy. But their parents said no fairies. The girls got so mad that they ran away into the forest

See next page



**HO...HO...
HOPE IT'S
MERRY!**

*With warm holiday wishes
from our gang to yours.
We couldn't have done it
without your support.
Thanks for everything!*

**COUNTY AUTO REPAIR
& RADIATOR SERVICE**

Haliburton 457-1411

Bob, James, Kory, John, Eileen, Dan & Families

Season's Greetings

Warmest Wishes
for the
Holiday Season
and a
Happy New Year

from the staff at
**JOHN E. FRANCIS FUELS
HEATING & COOLING**
Ted, Ingun, Ken, Grant, Neil & Carole
Thank you for a wonderful year!

*very
merry
greetings*

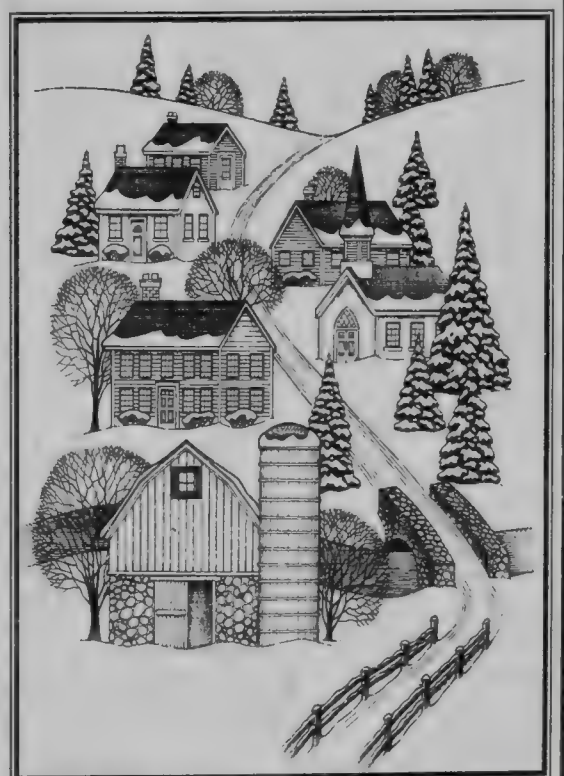
*We always look forward to this
time of year. It's our opportunity
to tell you how much we
appreciate your support. Thanks.*

**G.J. BURTCH
CONSTRUCTION**
ENTERPRISES LTD.

*Tidings of joy
and most merry
wishes to our
good friends
everywhere!*

*Merry Christmas
&
Many Thanks
For Your
Patronage!*

THOMAS CONTRACTING
- Carnarvon -



SEASONS GREETINGS

at night.

The girls travelled and saw a yellow fairy. They put it in a jar and gave it to their parents and proved to their parents that fairies are real. So for a Christmas gift, their parents let them keep the fairies.

That Christmas the girls were glad because they got what they wanted. It was a special Christmas for them.

The Christmas Trip

By Jordon Hamilton, Taylor Walton, Kirsten Ranger, and Chelsea Smallwood

Once upon a time in a far away land there was a cottage. In the cottage there was a wife, a son, and a daughter. The mother's name was Tracy, the brother's name was Carl, and the sisters name is Maria. They went to their grandparents for Christmas every year because it was a tradition.

The Gramma's name was Diane and the Grandpa's name was LeBron.

It was time to eat breakfast so everyone rushed to the table. After breakfast the grandpa said "Hey look it's



the day before Christmas, we have lots to do."

"First," said the mother, "we must get a Christmas tree."

After they got a the Christmas tree they started to walk to the house. Once they got to the house the broth-

er got the decorations. Soon the whole family started to decorate the tree. It was beautiful!

After they decorated they played a game called count the presents. The moral of the game is to see who gets the most presents. Of course the daughter got the most. Also, they started to sing Christmas songs like "Jingle bells."

They also baked Christmas cookies. They stayed at their grandparents' house for two weeks straight.

Soon it was time to go home so they packed their bags and set for the car. The car ride was an hour long!

They stopped at McDonalds to eat. When they got home it was time for bed so they all went to sleep. But before they went to sleep the daughter put some milk and cookies out for Santa.

When they woke up the cookies were gone and their tree had lots of rainbow coloured presents underneath. The End.

Season's Greetings



To the many fine citizens of this community, we'd like to offer our own best wishes and heartfelt appreciation for making us feel a part of it all.

We look forward to your continued support.



HALIBURTON LUMBER & ENTERPRISES LTD.

Gary Bailey	Lloyd Bull	Gary Harrison	Mathew Manary	Stacey Pietryszyn	Stan Tripp
Ian Bailey	Josh Burk	Greg Hewitt	Brad Manning	Arlene Scheffee	Adrian Vargas
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Rod Boughner	Don Goodine	Terry Lloyd	Stacey Parish	Cliff Smith	Jeff Wilson
Bruce Bounsall	Kenneth Griffin	Wade MacInnes	Dave Peacock	Bill Tripp	John Wilson



Wishing you a warm and furry Christmas
Minden Animal Hospital

Carol, Nikolai, Tammy, Lynn,
Melissa, Leah and Peter

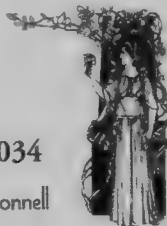


Wherever you go this holiday season,
our best wishes are with you.
It has been a pleasure serving you this year.

**Lady Esther
Esthetics**

(705) 754-3034

Darlene McConnell



May Nature's
Quiet Moments Surround You
This Holiday Season



Beary Christmoose from
The Girls: Pat, Shirley & Cindy
The Guys: Cody, Riley
& Jake "The Greeter"



Cottage Country Log Cabin

Trading Company Ltd.

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**With Heartfelt Thanks
At The Holidays**



Warm wishes to you this Christmas Season.
Your kind patronage means a lot to us.

Lynn's Hairstyling
286-1554

Our Christmas Tradition

By Savannah MacAusland and Andrew Hall

Every Christmas, me, Tommy and my twin brother Timmy always go to Home Hardware to pick up a real tree. Then we usually get home when supper is almost ready and we can taste it just from smelling it. Then we go and decorate the Christmas tree as soon as we finish eating supper.

Jenny usually runs and grabs all the decorations so Tommy, Timmy and Allen can't help. They tell their dad and he says "Oh well."

But Mom says "Stop!" Then Jenny doesn't get to decorate.



The Very Bad Christmas Eve

By Lucas Grove and Alyssa Sisson

It is tradition in my family that on Christmas Eve our Grandmas and Grandpas come over to our house and we have supper together. After we get to open one or two presents.

On Christmas Eve I was talking to my dad while we were in the garage. As I walked down the stairs...oops I fell off the step and onto the snowblower. It was a horrible sight. My mom, dad, and brother Nick rushed me to the hospital. While I was laying on the surgery bed, I fell asleep. Next thing I knew, when I woke up, I had 6 stitches in my lip. What a horrible Christmas Eve.

The following stories were written by students in Mike Darlington's Grade 2 class written in assistance of students in Mrs. Berbube's Grade 5 class.

A Horse in the Stocking

Every Christmas I sleep in my sister's room and we wake up really early in the morning and make coffee for my parents. And my grandma comes over. We hide mom in the bathroom while Savannah brings the birds down.

I found a stuffed horse in her stocking. It happened in Savannah's house. My sisters boyfriend, mom, dad, sister, aunt Joy, Jessica, Sidney, Jeffry, grandpa, uncle Jamie, aunt Lorraine and I were included. Savannah was giving Christmas cards, opening presents.

I felt happy because Jessica was there. I thought it was going to be a good Christmas.

By Savannah and Joey

and cake with milk. Then we opened the presents. After we went outside and played in the snow. We made snowman and snow angels.

I liked this Christmas because it was the best Christmas ever. What we did on Christmas.

The End.

By Caleb and Stephen

Christmas at Sam's

Every Christmas Sam's Nana, Grandma, and Grammy come to Sam's house and bake lots of cookies. He eats some with his family, then he watches movies.

On Christmas, Sam opens his presents and has fun playing with them. Sam plays until bedtime.

It was such a great time with his family.

By Sam K.



Happy Holidays From All Of Us



6522 Gelert Road, R.R. 2, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Tel: (705) 457-9558 • Fax: (705) 457-3485

A Horse in the Stocking

One Christmas day I got a Seen It Junior. I also got a Light Saver for Christmas. We had it at my place. My aunts and uncles came up.

We ate dinner first then we ate cookies



Greetings of the Season

It is you, our very special friends, who have put the "happy" in our "Holidays" and we thank you very much! At this most joyous time of year, we extend to you and your family best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. We look forward to your continued patronage and invite you to visit us again soon.

The management and staff of



thermoshell

Minden 286-1088

Judy Hardy, Bryan Hughes, Tim Turcotte, David Farrell, Dan Arbour, Vicki Dollo, Dave Johnson, Mike Billings, Ken Berry, Doug Traill, Denise Butler, Luke Martindale, Chris Caselle, Jamie Jones

SEARS



Now In Stock: Our Best Wishes

We're overflowing with warm wishes and thanks for our many valued customers. Here's hoping the holiday season has lots of good times in store for all of you! Happy Holidays.



from the staff of
**Minden
Sears**

Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

A Christmas Memory

Every Christmas we go to my Grama's for breakfast and when we're done, we go make a snowman with the family. Then we go back inside and go downstairs and open them.

After we are done, we say goodbye and go home. I felt happy about this because it was fun there.

By Alisha

Decorating the House is the Most Fun

My favourite Christmas memory is when I decorate my house with one tree in the living room. I also put decorations on the tree like Santa and a star on top. We put up wreaths, candles and greenery. Me and my family bake cookies. I sing Christmas Carols. I did this at my Mom's house.

Me and my best friend write about Christmas.

I like this memory because it was fun and I see my family.

By Ryan

Being Together

My favourite Christmas memory is when my dad came home and we opened presents in the living room and then we had breakfast. My mom and my dad were both very happy. This was in my house. After breakfast I played with my toys and watched movies.

By Vivian

Santa Gets Cookies

Every Christmas I put milk and cookies out for Santa. Sometimes I help put up the tree.

My mom makes cookies for the family. We watch Rudolph every Christmas and we have supper with our family. Mom, my sisters and I do all these things together. We do all these activities at my

house. I like this memory because I got to play with my sisters.

By Daniel

Every Christmas

I go tobogganing at Beavers. I also play video games at home. I decorate the tree at my house too.

I like to go tobogganing because the family can get together and have fun. I like to play video games and decorate the tree because it fills me with joy.

By Kyle Wallace

Christmas is a Time for Memories

Every Christmas I decorate my house. One Christmas I gave my dog a present. My favourite Christmas memory is when my Grandma gave me a present I always wanted. When my family was

opening presents, I was very, very happy.

By Alyssa

Eagle Lake for Christmas

Every Christmas Alisha's aunts and uncles go to Eagle Lake for Christmas for Christmas dinner.

When she goes to her grandma's house, her family watches the Grinch in her dad's truck.

At Alisha's grandma's house everyone has pie and ice-cream for dessert. At the end of the day Alisha, Adam, Tyler, Evelyn and her uncle Paul go snow tubing.

She likes these memories because it is fun to see all of her friends and family. Also, she like to snow tube.

By Alisha and Megan

Season's Greetings!

From our family to yours,
we wish you a safe and festive holiday season!



Book a bus today: LaidlawCharters@lpsg.com

Season's Greetings

As we celebrate this season of wonder,
may its peace and joy remain with you
throughout the coming year.

Point in Time
Centre for Children, Youth and Parents



With You in Mind at Christmastime

May you and your family enjoy
the many blessings that give true meaning to the holiday season.
We feel privileged and blessed to have you as our neighbours.

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Donna, Sara and Matt

Our Holiday Wish to You

May you and yours be blessed with joy, laughter, love,
good health and good friends now and throughout the
coming new year. It has been our pleasure to serve you
and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Walker's
HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS



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SEASONS GREETINGS

Reindeer get cookies too

Every Christmas I put up a tree and put out milk and cookies for Santa and food for the reindeer.

This all happened at Grandma's house. I had so much fun that Christmas.

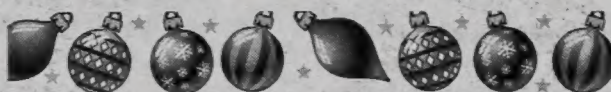
After Christmas was over I felt very sad. But I had a lot of fun.

By Nicole Honderich and Taylor Bennett.

My Favourite Decoration

Every Christmas, me, my sister, and my mom decorate our Christmas tree! My favourite ornament is the one with my school picture on it!

By Emma



Animals Sleep While Santa Visits

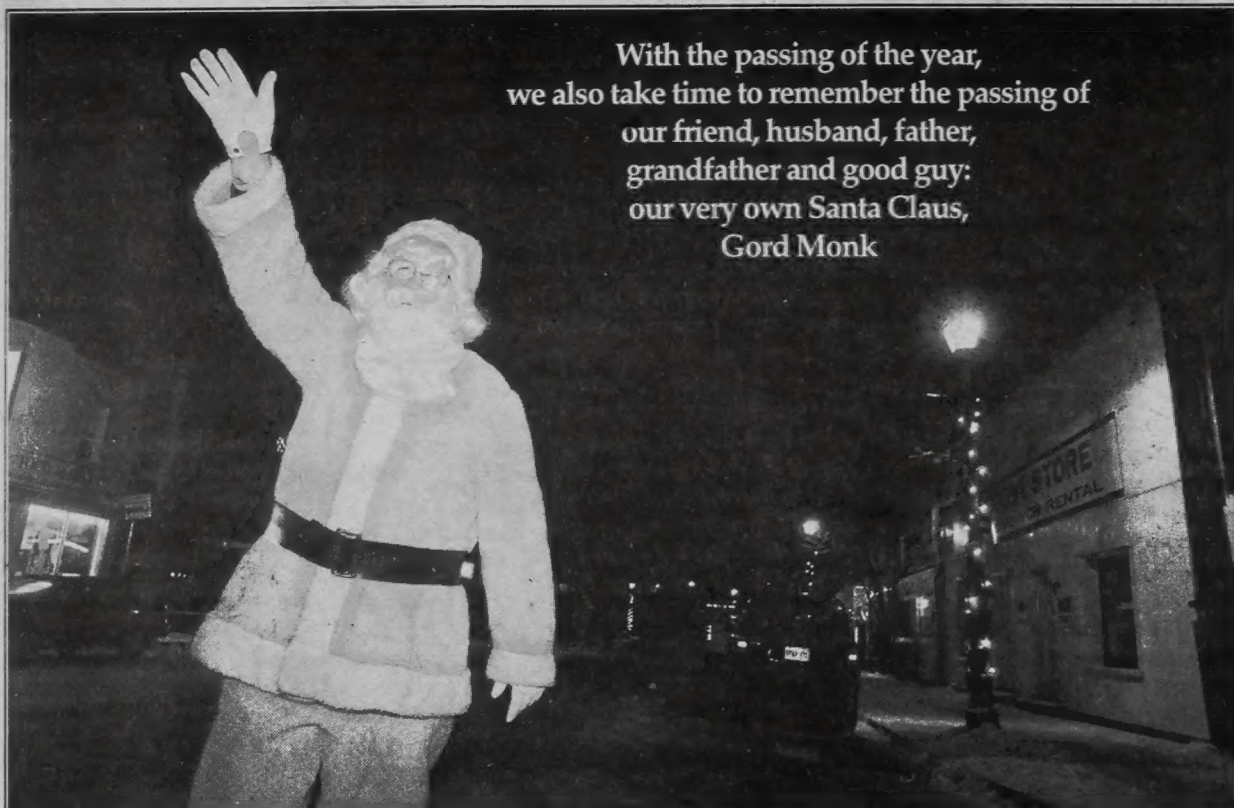
Every Christmas I get presents from my aunt, my mom and dad. Once I stayed up all night. When first snow falls the cats sleeps on the Christmas tree, the birds sleep in the cage, the dogs sleeps on the floor, the kids sleep on the floor with the dog. Santa eats cookies and milk. Santa puts presents in my families stockings. That was the best Christmas my family ever had.

By Allysa M.

Carrots for the Reindeer

On Christmas Eve Santa comes at night! I leave milk and cookies out for him and carrots out for the reindeer!

By Shannon



With the passing of the year,
we also take time to remember the passing of
our friend, husband, father,
grandfather and good guy:
our very own Santa Claus,
Gord Monk

May every family be blessed with such wonderful memories.

THE MONK & CRAY FAMILIES



the Reason for the Season

We invited you to visit one of our Christian Churches this Christmas

St. George's Anglican Church

Haliburton

December 24th

9:00 am Carol Singing
10:00 am Service Holy Eucharist
3:00 pm Children's Pageant

December 31st

9:30 am Service of Lessons
and Carols

St. Margaret's Anglican Church

Wilberforce

December 24th

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

St. Paul's Anglican Church

Minden

December 24th

11:00 pm Holy Communion

St. Jame's Anglican Church

Kinmount

December 24th

9:00 pm Holy Communion

St. Peter's Anglican Church

Maple Lake - 286-2451

December 24th

11:15 am Holy Communion

December 25th

10:00 am Service

St. John's Anglican Church

Irondale

December 24th

11:00 pm Praise & Worship Service

St. Anthony's Catholic Church

Haliburton

December 24th

6:30 pm Carol Singing
7:00 pm Pageant Mass

Lakeside Baptist Church

Haliburton

December 24th

10:00 am Service
7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Haliburton United Church

Haliburton

December 24th

11:15 am 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service and Communion
will be served

Minden United Church

Minden

December 24th

11:00 am Service
7:00 pm Family Service

Maple Lake United Church

Maple Lake

December 24th

9:00 pm Communion Service

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ASES opens its doors to the Christmas spirit



Last Thursday night, Archie Stourffer Elementary School held a festive open house. And like all events in the county, it included lots of goodies!

Above: Bailey Walker, 11, Kayla Gardiner, 11 and Maia O'Sullivan, 11, came up with the idea of selling cookies to raise money for cancer research in honour of Dawson Hamilton.

Top left: Owen Smith, 6, is all smiles as he places his ticket in the jar for a chance to win the game, Throw Me a Bone. The board game was one of several prizes up for grabs during the night.

Middle left: A chocolate-topped muffin caught the eye of Destiny Cooper, 5, during the bake sale.

Bottom left: Ava Smith, 2, got a premium view with Cheryl Patterson holding her above the crowd, who gathered to hear who had won the prizes from the raffle.

Photos by Jessica Young



**AT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
OUR THOUGHTS TURN
GRATEFULLY TO THOSE
WHO HAVE MADE
OUR PROGRESS POSSIBLE.**

**IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT WE SAY....
"THANK YOU"**

**AND WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**



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HANS, ERIKA AND ALL THE STAFF

**WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS FROM NOON
ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 22ND UNTIL MONDAY
JANUARY 8TH 2007**

*The staff and management of Curry Motors wishes you and yours
a most blessed & meaningful holiday season.*



Donald Popple
Leonard Salvatori
Joe Iles
Andy Salvatori
Michael Iles
Robert Johnston
Leigh Bull
Robert Bullock
Jason Newell

Lynn Troke
Marj Howard
Marilyn Gibbon
Dale Emmerson
John McNeil
Greg Smith
Marcel Crete
Gary Williams
Bruce Swinson

Cleve Shaw
Larry Dack
Don Miller
Brian Woodley
Mark Barry
Garry Burk
Robert Stevenson
Alan Clement
Jennifer Dixon

Norm Perrott
Wren Billings
David Cook
Helen Burk
Wayne Smith
Ken Kreller
Stephen Schrader
Spencer Bacon
Kory Gill

Wayne McNeil
David Sinclair
David Reid
Harold Vince
Douglas Woodley
Yolanda Barton
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